

# Bayesian inference on nuclear data and neutron star observations for the nuclear equation of state

European Nuclear Physics conference, Caen, France

22<sup>nd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> September

Pietro Klausner

22/9/2025



# Collaborators

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Xavier **Roca-Maza** (University of Milano & University of Barcelona)

Enrico **Vigazzi** (I.N.F.N.)

Francesca **Gulminelli** (University of Normandie-Caen & L.P.C. Caen)

Anthea **Fantina** (GANIL)

Marco **Antonelli** (L.P.C. Caen)

# Structure of the presentation

---

Bayesian inference on nuclear data and neutron star observations for the nuclear equation of state

- **First Part: constraints on EoS from nuclear experiments<sup>1</sup>**

- Bayesian inference
- Skyrme Interaction

- **Second Part: constraints on EoS from Neutron Stars observations<sup>2</sup>**

- Second Bayesian inference

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<sup>1</sup><https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevC.111.014311>

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# Bayesian inference in a nutshell

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Bayes' theorem

$$p(x, y) \rightarrow p(x | y) = \frac{p(y | x)p(x)}{p(y)}$$

Given a set of experimental data  $X$  and the parameters  $\theta$  of our model  $M$

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*Likelihood*  $\mathcal{L}(\theta)$  *Prior distribution*

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Normalization factor for comparing different models; it does not depend on  $\theta$

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*Prior distribution*

Assumption on the model before considering experimental evidences

$$p(\theta | X) = \frac{p(X | \theta)p(\theta)}{p(X)}$$

*Posterior distribution*

*Evidence*

Probability distribution of model parameters; cannot be computed analytically (MC sampling techniques)

Normalization factor for comparing different models; it does not depend on  $\theta$

# Parameters of the model and prior

---

## Parameters ( $\theta$ )

---

$n_{sat}, E_{sat}, K_{sat}, E_{sym}, L_{sym}$

Nuclear matter  
parameters

$G_0, G_1$

Surface term  
parameters

$W_0, v_0$

Spin-orbit parameter  
and pairing strength

$m_0^*/m, m_1^*/m$

Effective  
masses

0 = isoscalar; 1 = isovector

1-to-1 correspondence with usual  
Skyrme parameters<sup>1</sup>!

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<sup>1</sup>L.-W. Chen et al. Phys. Rev. C 80, 014322 (2009)

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## Prior distribution $p(\theta)$

	Units	Lower limit	Upper limit
$n_{sat}$	[fm <sup>-3</sup> ]	0.150	0.175
$E_{sat}$	[MeV]	-16.50	-15.50
$K_{sat}$	[MeV]	180.00	260.00
$E_{sym}$	[MeV]	24.00	40.00
$L_{sym}$	[MeV]	-20.00	120.00
$G_0$	[MeV fm <sup>5</sup> ]	90.00	170.00
$G_1$	[MeV fm <sup>5</sup> ]	-90.00	70.00
$W_0$	[MeV fm <sup>5</sup> ]	60.00	190.00
$m_0^*/m$	[-]	0.70	1.10
$m_1^*/m$	[-]	0.60	0.90
$v_0$	[MeV fm <sup>3</sup> ]	150	350

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# Observables ( $X$ ) and uncertainties ( $\sigma$ )

---

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta) = \prod_i^N \exp\left(-\frac{(\textcolor{red}{X}_i - M_i(\theta))^2}{2\textcolor{red}{\sigma}_i^2}\right)$$



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$$\mathcal{L}(\theta) = \prod_i^N \exp \left( -\frac{(\textcolor{red}{X}_i - M_i(\theta))^2}{2\textcolor{red}{\sigma}_i^2} \right)$$

Ground-state properties			
	$B.E.$ [MeV]	$R_{\text{ch}}$ [fm]	$\Delta E_{\text{SO}}$ [MeV]
$^{208}\text{Pb}$	$1636.4 \pm 2.0^*$	$5.50 \pm 0.05^*$	$2.02 \pm 0.50^*$
$^{48}\text{Ca}$	$416.0 \pm 2.0^*$	$3.48 \pm 0.05^*$	$1.72 \pm 0.50^*$
$^{68}\text{Ni}$	$590.4 \pm 2.0^*$	-	-
$^{132}\text{Sn}$	$1102.8 \pm 2.0^*$	$4.71 \pm 0.05$	-
$^{90}\text{Zr}$	$783.9 \pm 2.0^*$	$4.27 \pm 0.05$	-

Data from open shell nuclei			
	$B.E.$ [MeV]	$R_{ch}$ [fm]	$\Delta_n$ [MeV]
$^{50}\text{Ca}$	$427.5 \pm 2.0^*$	$3.52 \pm 0.05^*$	-
$^{46}\text{Ca}$	$398.8 \pm 2.0^*$	-	-
$^{44}\text{Ca}$	$381.0 \pm 2.0^*$	-	-
$^{42}\text{Ca}$	$361.9 \pm 2.0^*$	-	-
$^{120}\text{Sn}$	$1020.5 \pm 2.0^*$	$4.65 \pm 0.05^*$	$1.3 \pm 0.2^*$
$^{112}\text{Sn}$	$953.5 \pm 2.0^*$	-	-
$^{124}\text{Sn}$	$1050.0 \pm 2.0^*$	-	-

$B.E.$  : Binding Energy;

$R_{ch}$  : Charge radius

$\Delta E_{SO}$  : Spin-orbit splitting

$\Delta_n$  : Neutron pairing gap

\*Theoretical error

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$B.E.$  : Binding Energy;  
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$E_{GMR}^{IS}$  : IsoScalar Giant monopole resonance  
excitation energy (constrained)  
 $E_{GQR}^{IS}$  : IsoScalar Giant quadrupole resonance  
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Isovector properties			
	$\alpha_{\text{D}}$ [fm <sup>3</sup> ]	$m(1)$ [MeV fm <sup>2</sup> ]	$A_{\text{PV}}$ (ppb)
$^{208}\text{Pb}$	$19.60 \pm 0.60$	$961 \pm 22$	<b><math>528 \pm 18</math></b>
$^{48}\text{Ca}$	$2.07 \pm 0.22$	-	<b><math>2550 \pm 113</math></b>

$B.E.$  : Binding Energy;  
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$E_{GMR}^{\text{IS}}$  : IsoScalar Giant monopole resonance  
excitation energy (constrained)  
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$\alpha_{\text{D}}$ : Nuclear polarizability  
 $m(1)$  : EWSR of IVGDR  
 $A_{\text{PV}}$ : Parity violating asymmetry

\*Theoretical error

<sup>1</sup> X. Roca-Maza, D H. Jakubassa-Amundsen  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 134, 192501 (2025) **4**

# Sampling of the posterior

---

$$p(\theta | X) = \frac{p(X | \theta)p(\theta)}{p(X)} \longrightarrow$$

Metropolis-Hastings algorithm:  
MCMC, explores parameter space  
focusing on zones with high  $\mathcal{L}$

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“hfbcqs-qarpa<sup>1</sup>” code to compute observables from parameters ( $M(\theta)$ )

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Computing all the observables  $\longrightarrow \sim 2$  hours!



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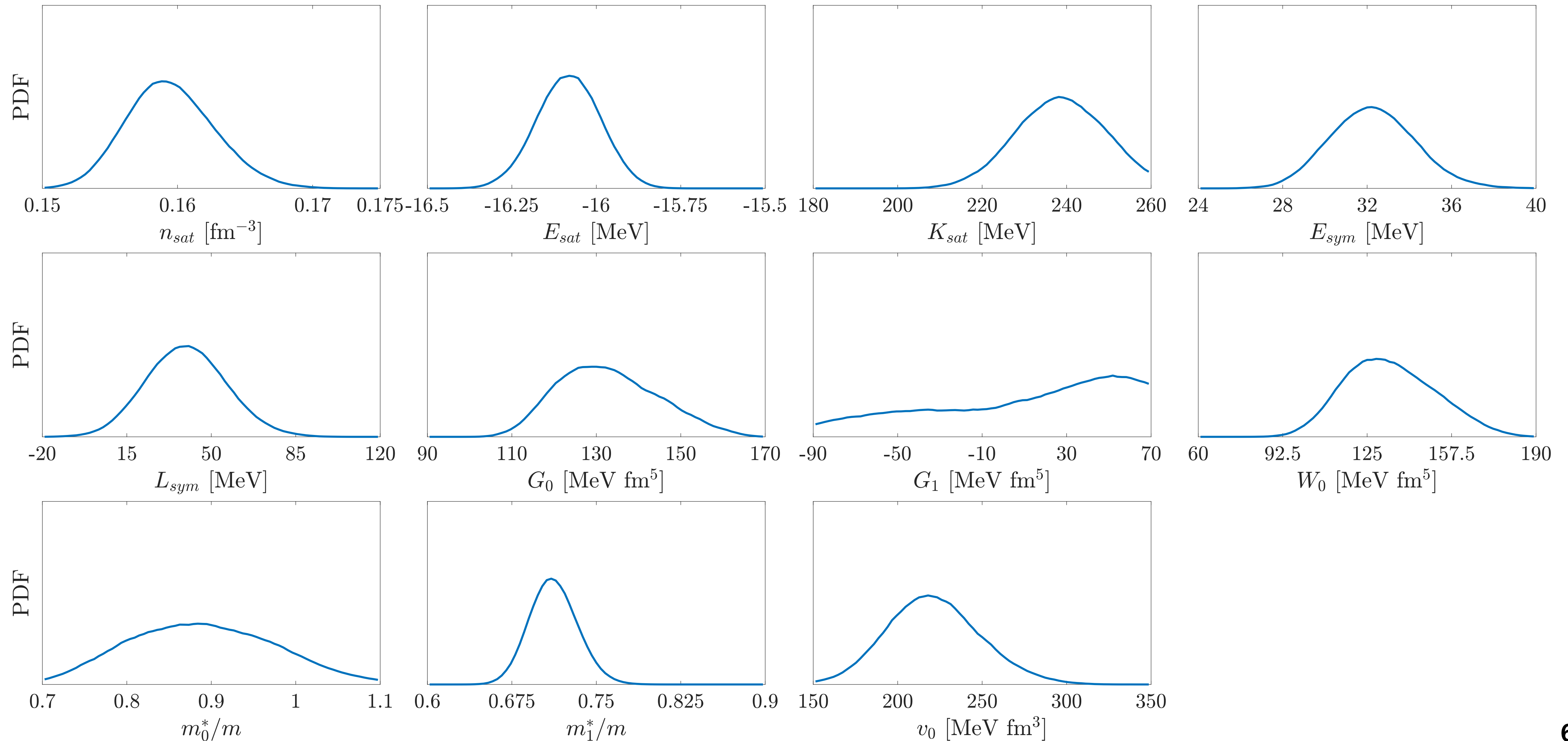
2 h. x 10'000'000 points...  
**MADAI package<sup>1</sup>**  
**(Emulator for Bayesian inference)**

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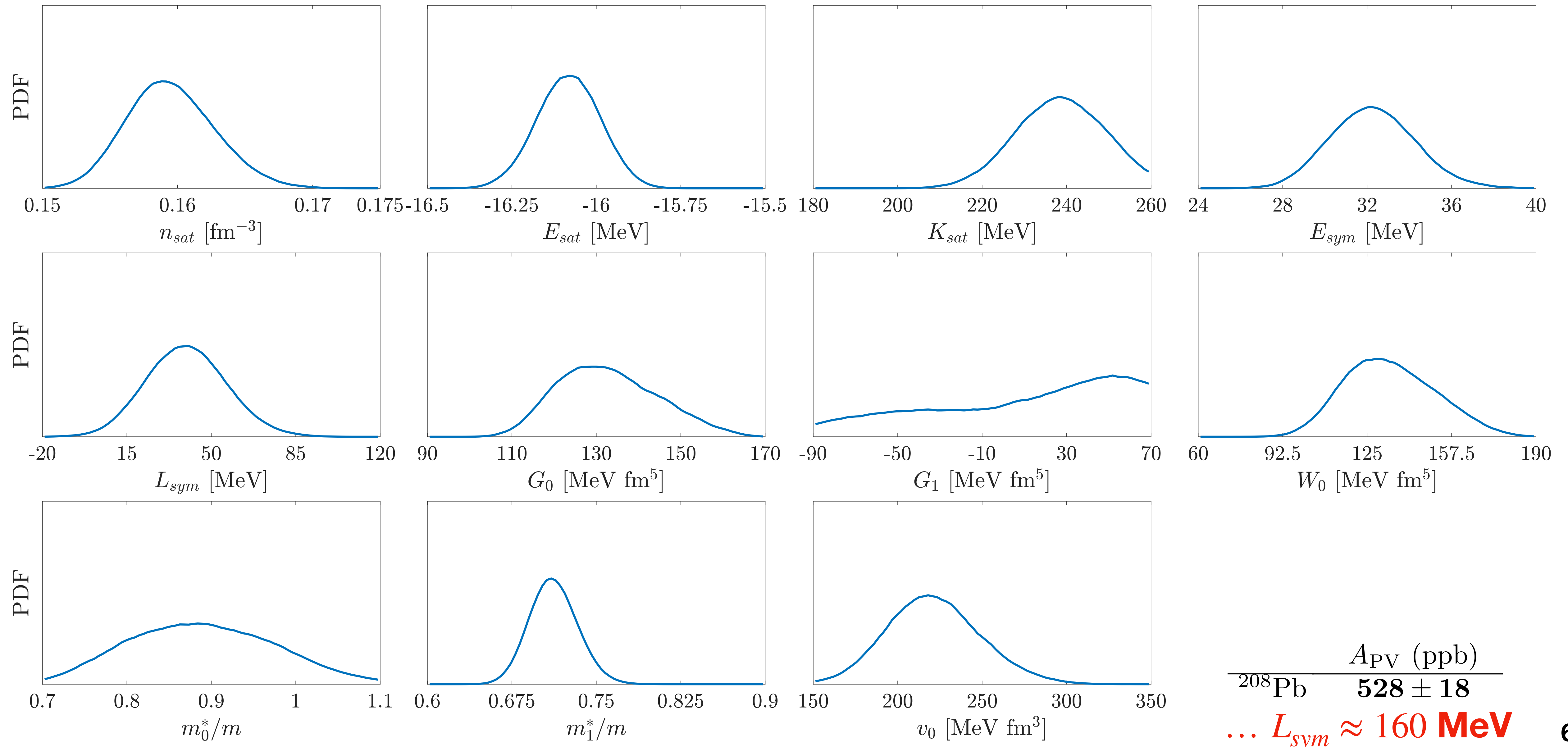
<sup>1</sup><https://madai.phy.duke.edu/>



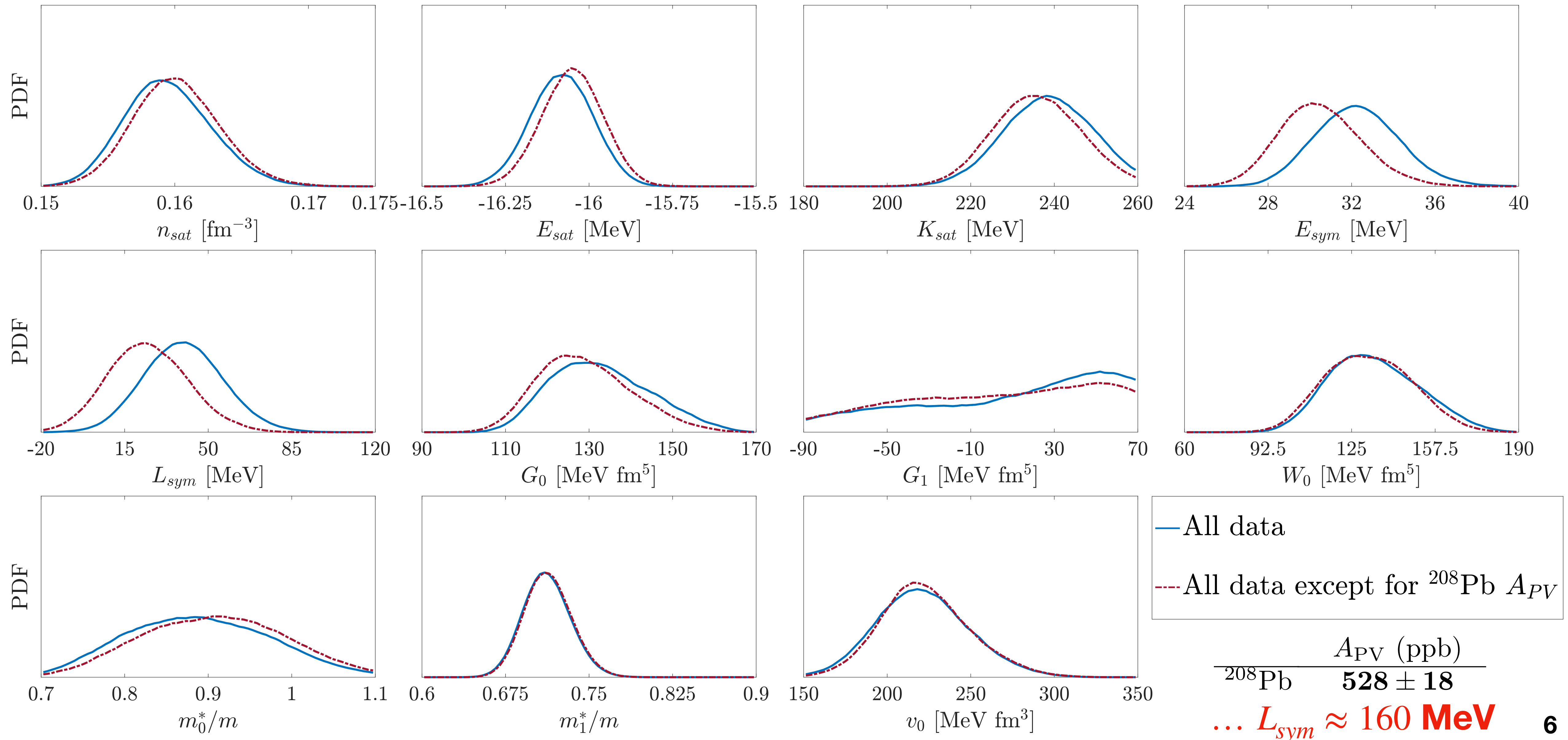
# Progressive marginalized posteriors



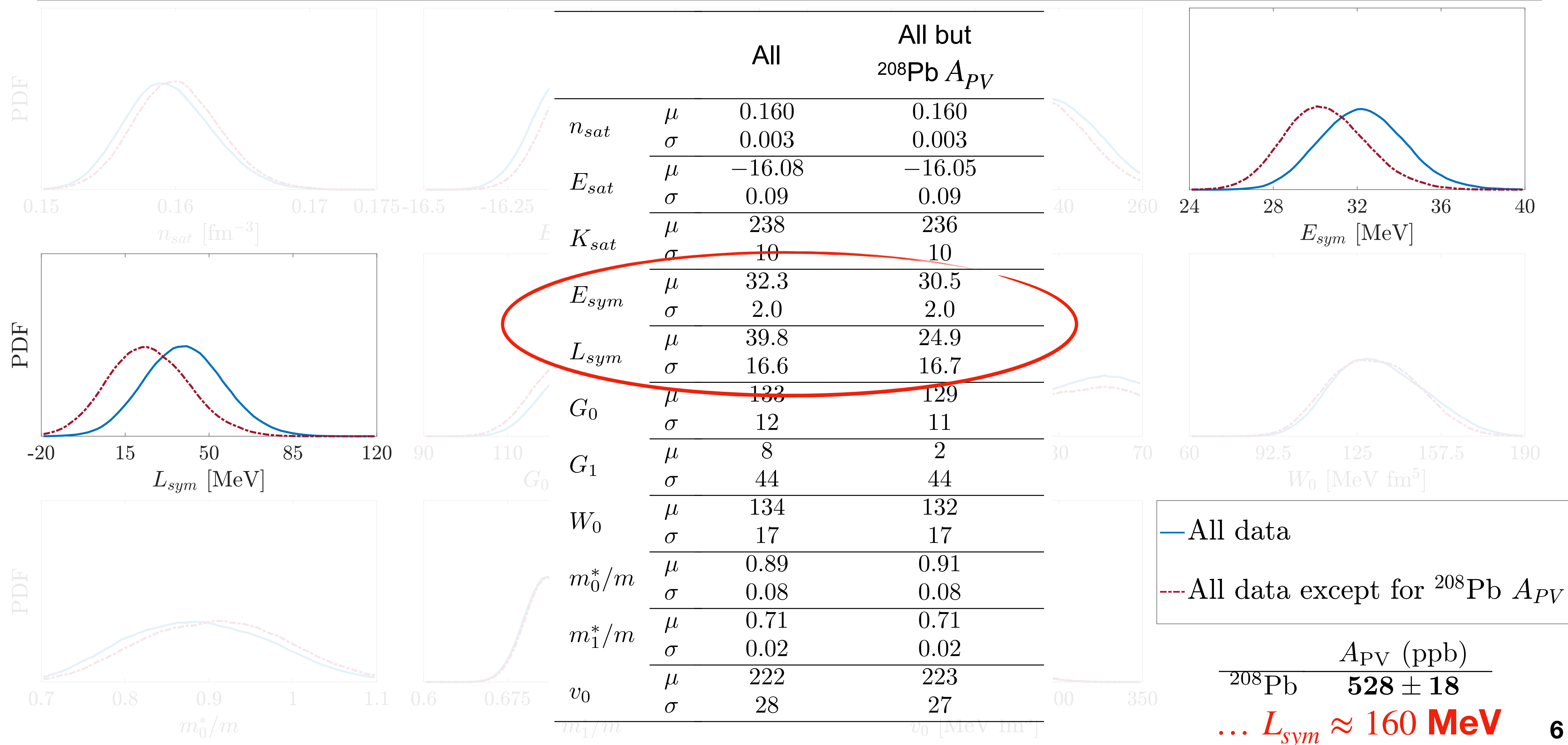
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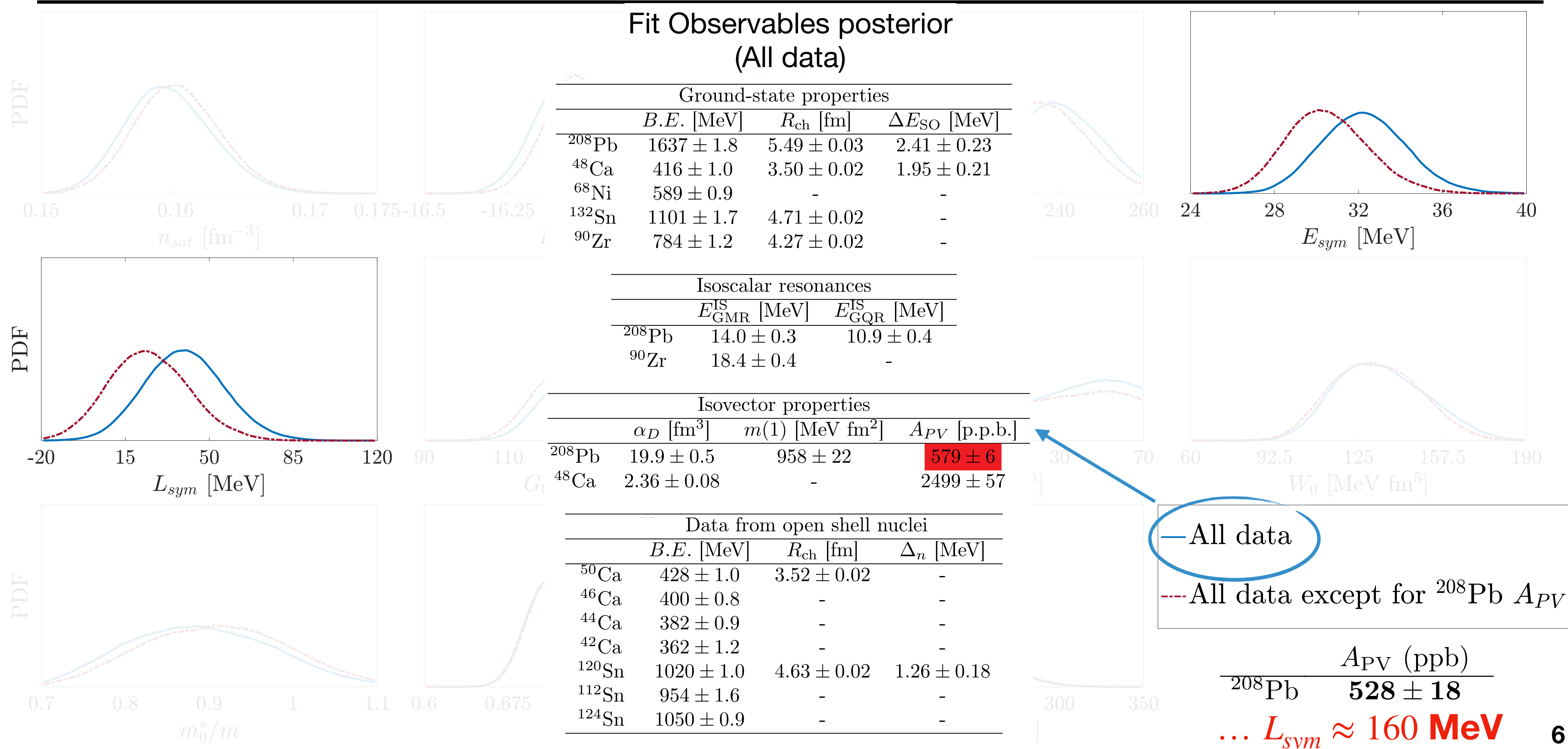
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# Computation of the NS EOS

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Skyrme parametrization

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EOS Inner Crust (ETF; Skyrme)



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Approximated ETF; outer crust  
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if stable and causal

Mapping of Skyrme into MM<sup>1</sup> representation



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Identical behaviour for  $n < n_{sat}$ ,  
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Nucleonic ( $npe\mu$ ) matter in  
 $\beta$ -equilibrium

<sup>1</sup>Margueron et al., Phys. Rev. C **97**, 025805 (2018)

# Computation of the NS EOS

Skyrme parametrization

EOS Inner Crust (ETF; Skyrme)

if stable and causal

Mapping of Skyrme into MM<sup>1</sup> representation

EOS Core (MM)

if stable (until acausal)

Calculation of NS properties and Bayesian analysis

Approximated ETF; outer crust  
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# Bayesian setup: prior and constraints

## Prior distribution

$E_{sat}$	[MeV]	*
$n_{sat}$	[fm <sup>-3</sup> ]	*
$K_{sat}$	[MeV]	*
$Q_{sat}$	[MeV]	[-2000,2000]
$Z_{sat}$	[MeV]	[-3000,3000]
$E_{sym}$	[MeV]	*
$L_{sym}$	[MeV]	*
$Q_{sym}$	[MeV]	[-4000,4000]
$Z_{sym}$	[MeV]	[-5000,5000]
$m_{IS}^*$	[-]	*
$m_{IV}^*$	[-]	*
$w_0$	[MeV fm <sup>5</sup> ]	*
$G_0$	[MeV fm <sup>5</sup> ]	*
$G_1$	[MeV fm <sup>5</sup> ]	*

# Bayesian setup: prior and constraints

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## Observational constraints

- Maximum mass of Neutron Star ( $\mathcal{L}_{J0348}$ );
- Tidal deformability results ( $\mathcal{L}_{LVC}$ );
- NICER mission mass-radius measurements ( $\mathcal{L}_{NICER}$ );
- $\chi$ -EFT computations of PNM at low density ( $\mathcal{L}_\chi$ ).



# Bayesian setup: prior and constraints

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### Prior distribution:

$10^5$  extractions from nuclear posterior



NS EOS computation

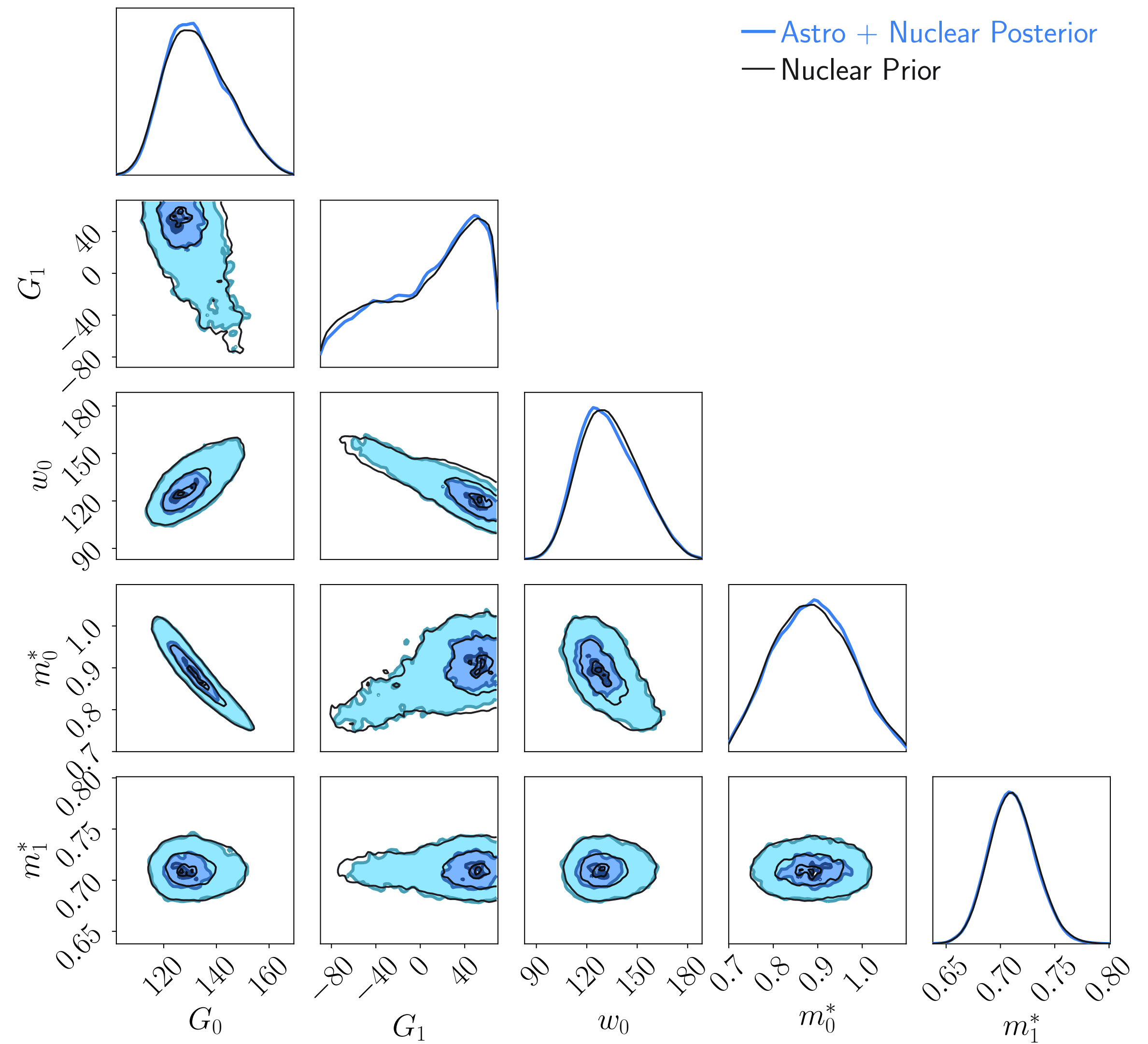
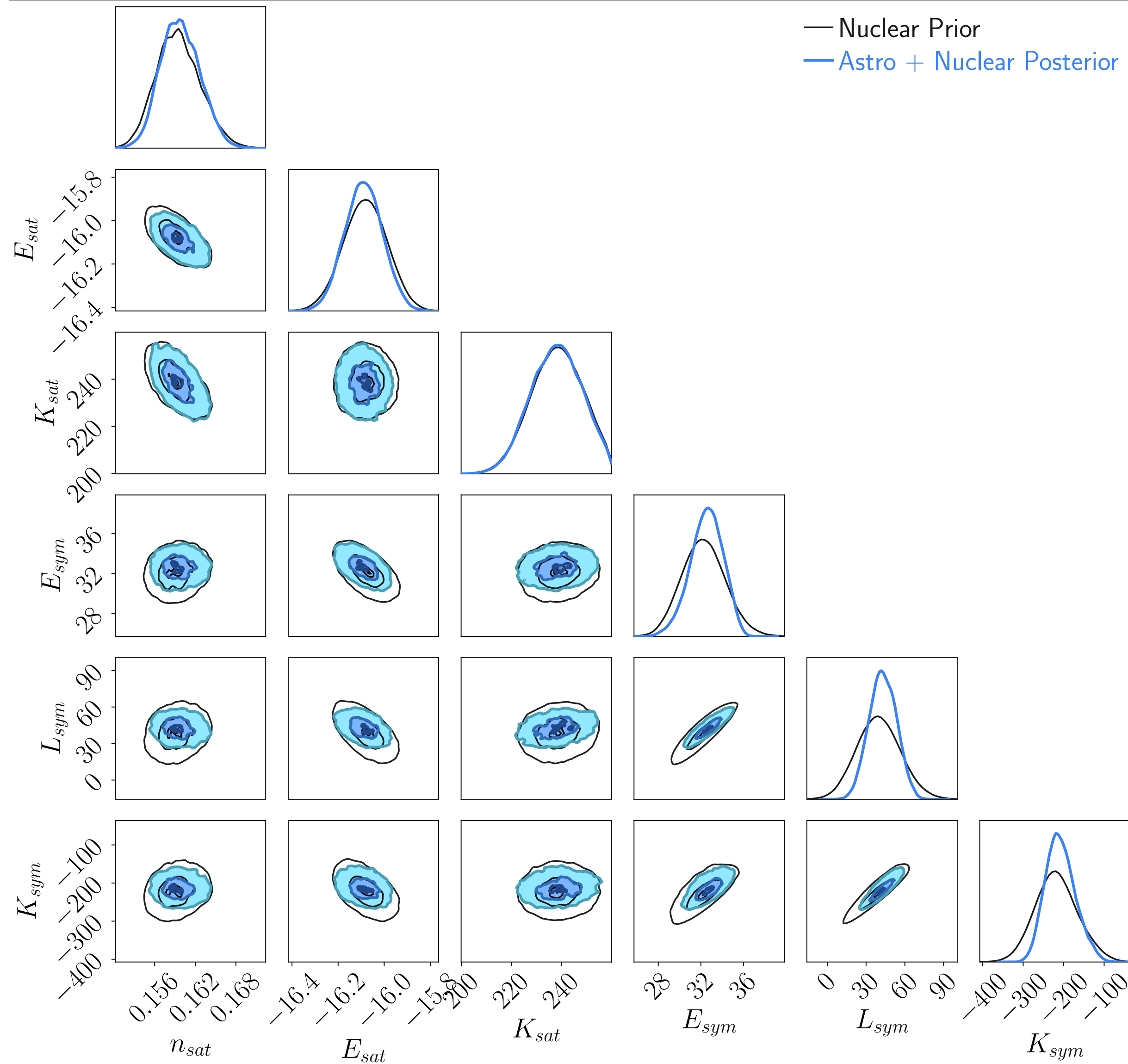


### Posterior distribution:

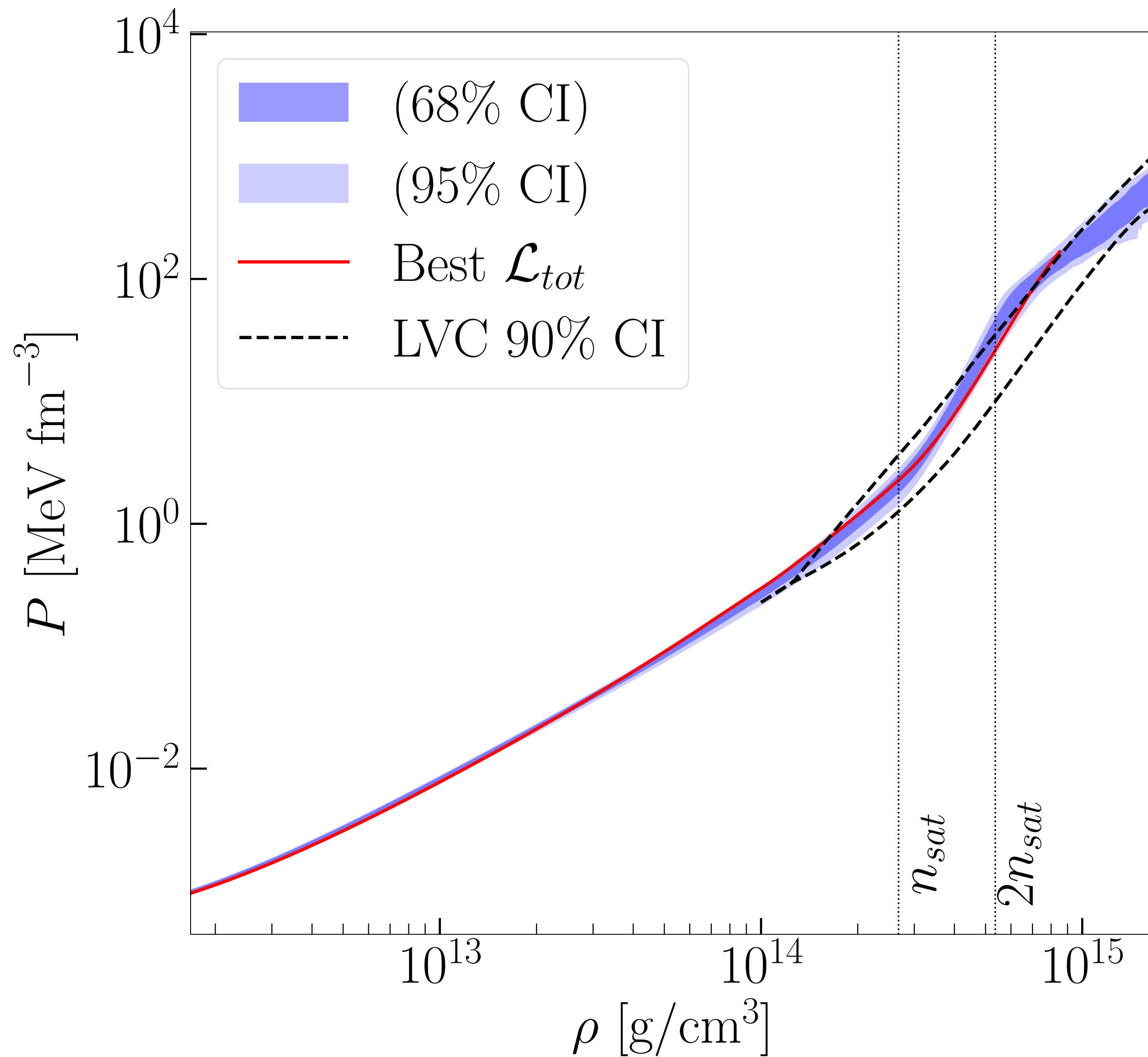
Prior distribution weighted with

$$\mathcal{L}_{tot} = \prod_i \mathcal{L}_i$$

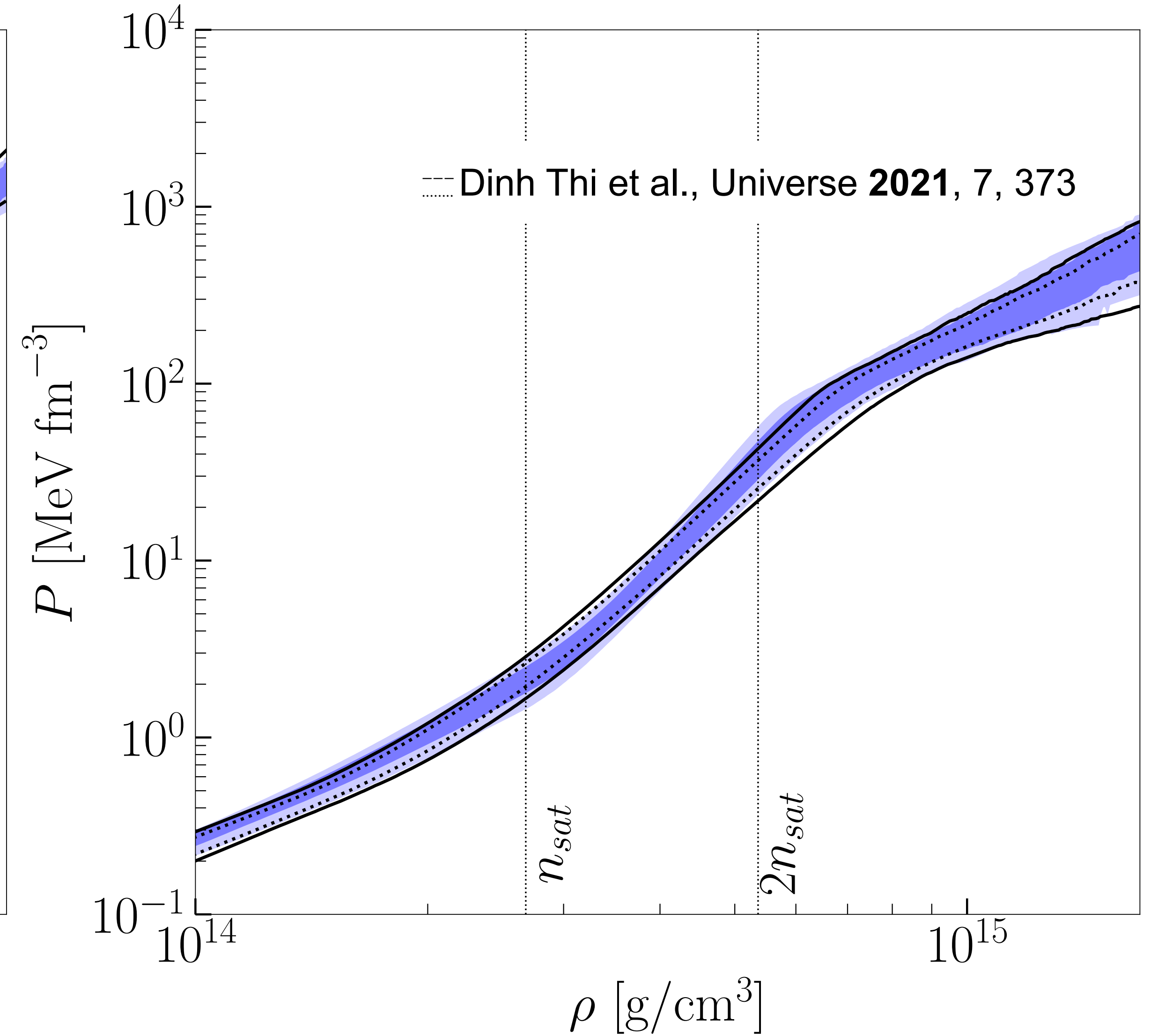
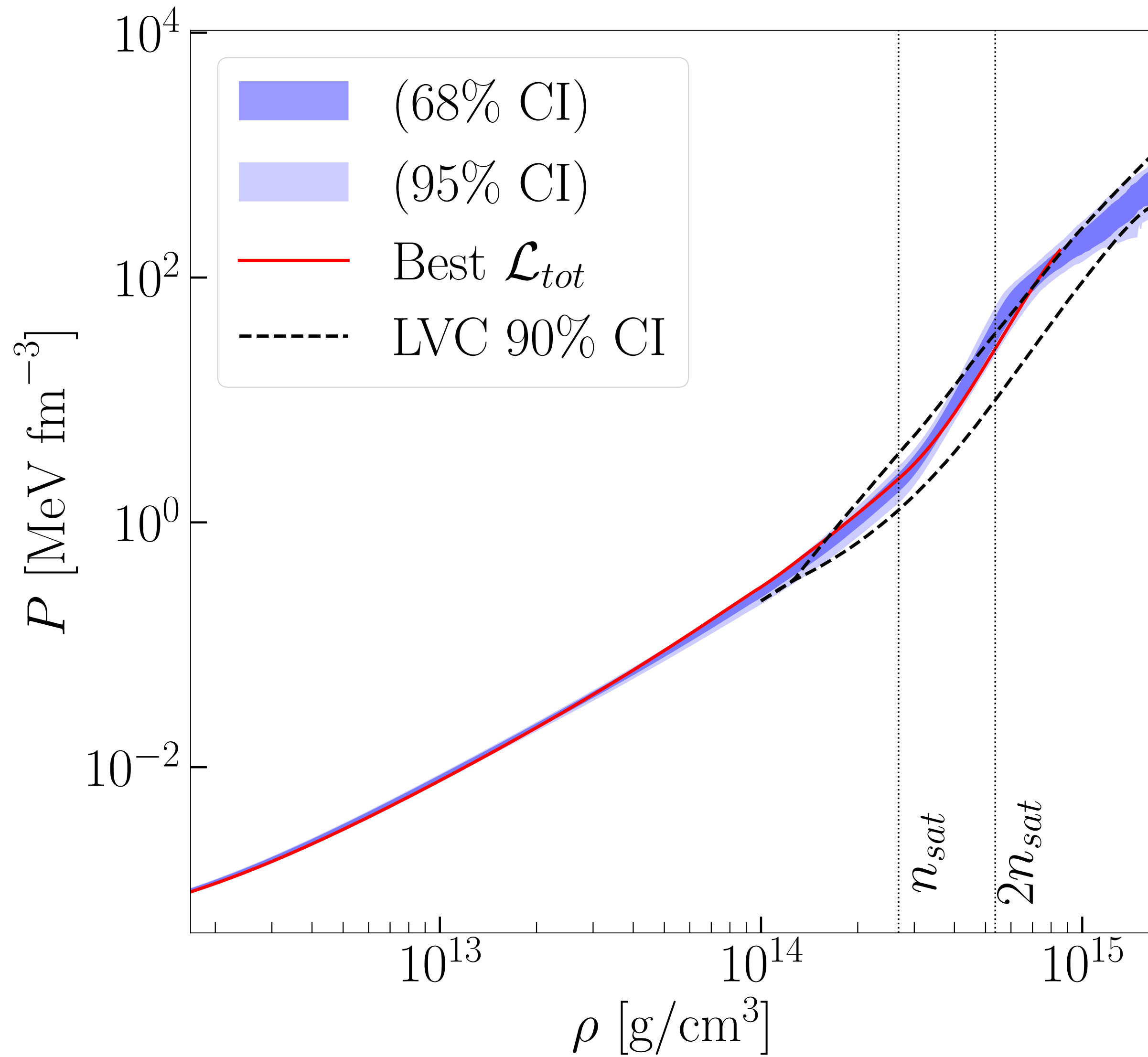
# Corner plots: prior vs posterior



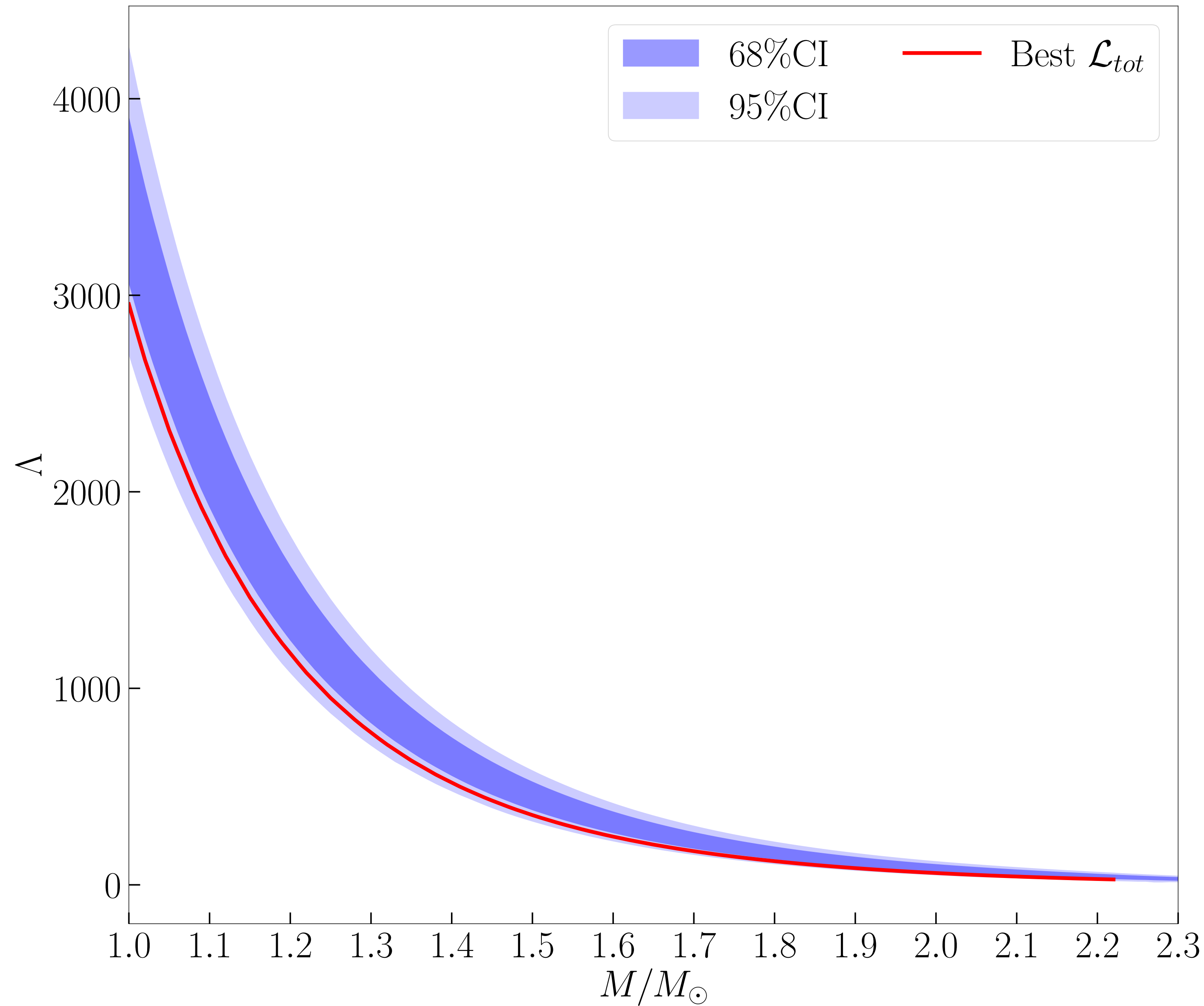
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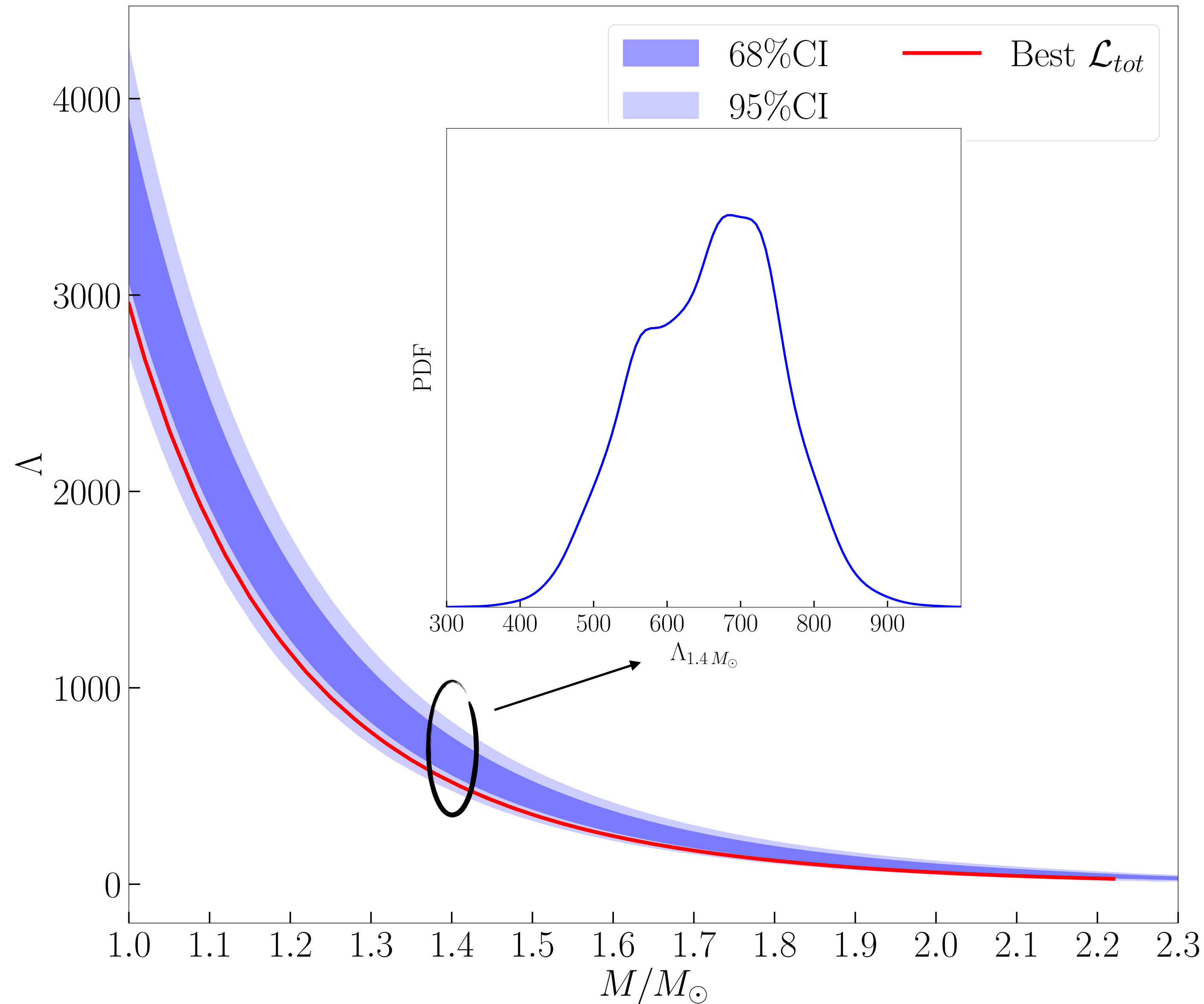
# Equation of State



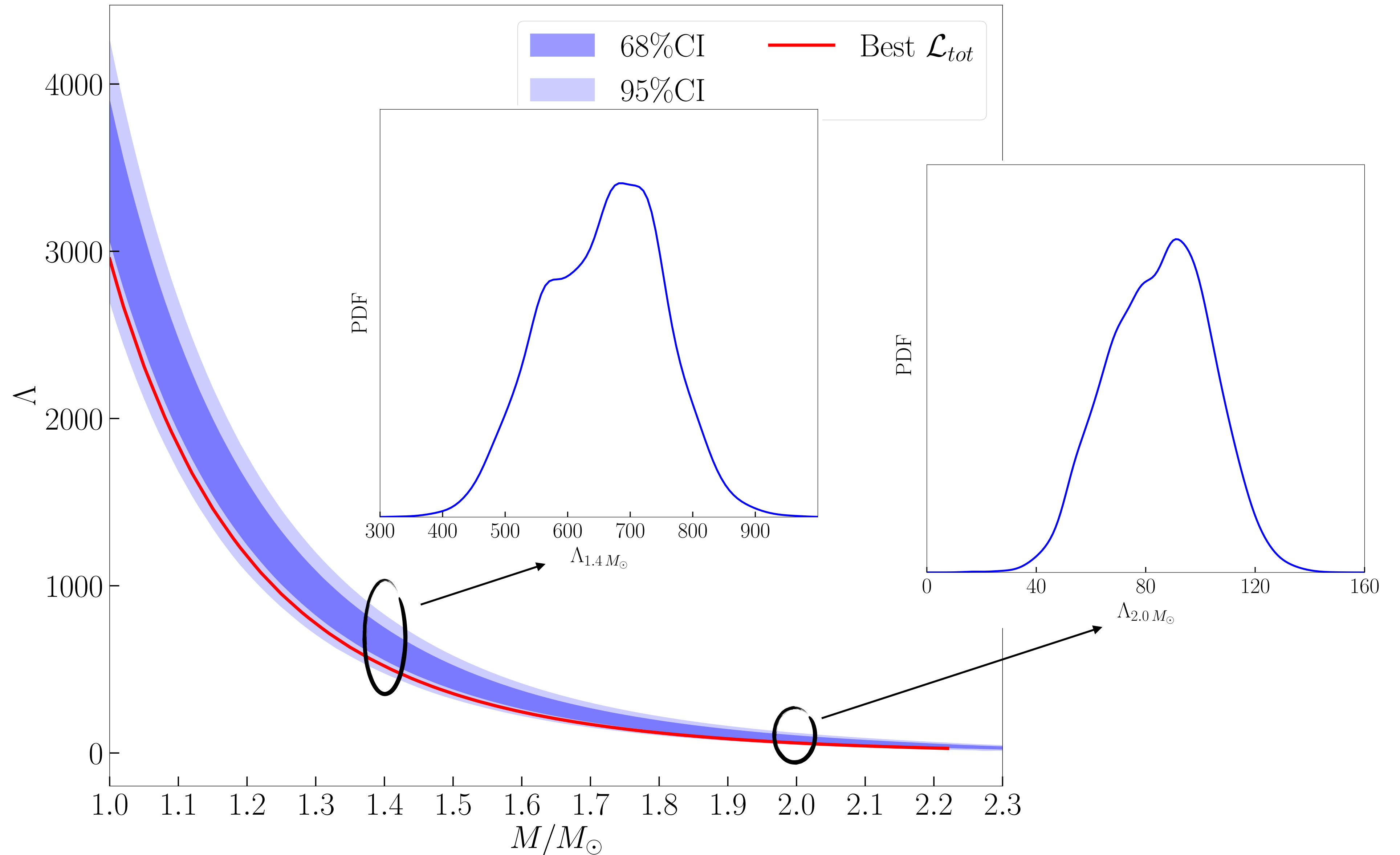
# Tidal deformability



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# Conclusions

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- Bayesian statistical analysis on nuclear matter parameters with nuclear experiments :



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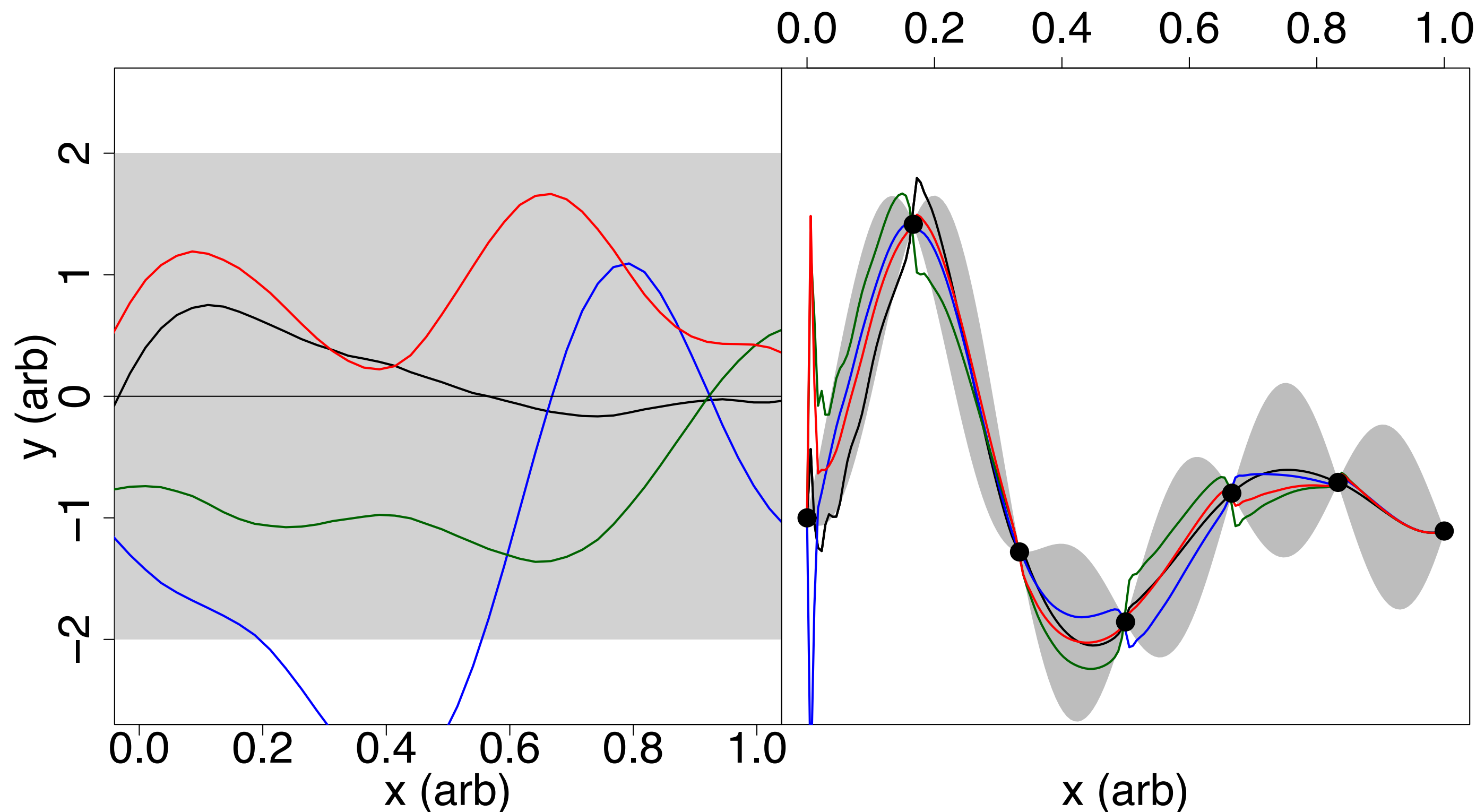
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  - Effect on structure of the  $P$  between  $n_{sat}$  and  $2n_{sat}$  due to nuclear informed prior

Thank you for your attention!



# Gaussian process (GP) emulator

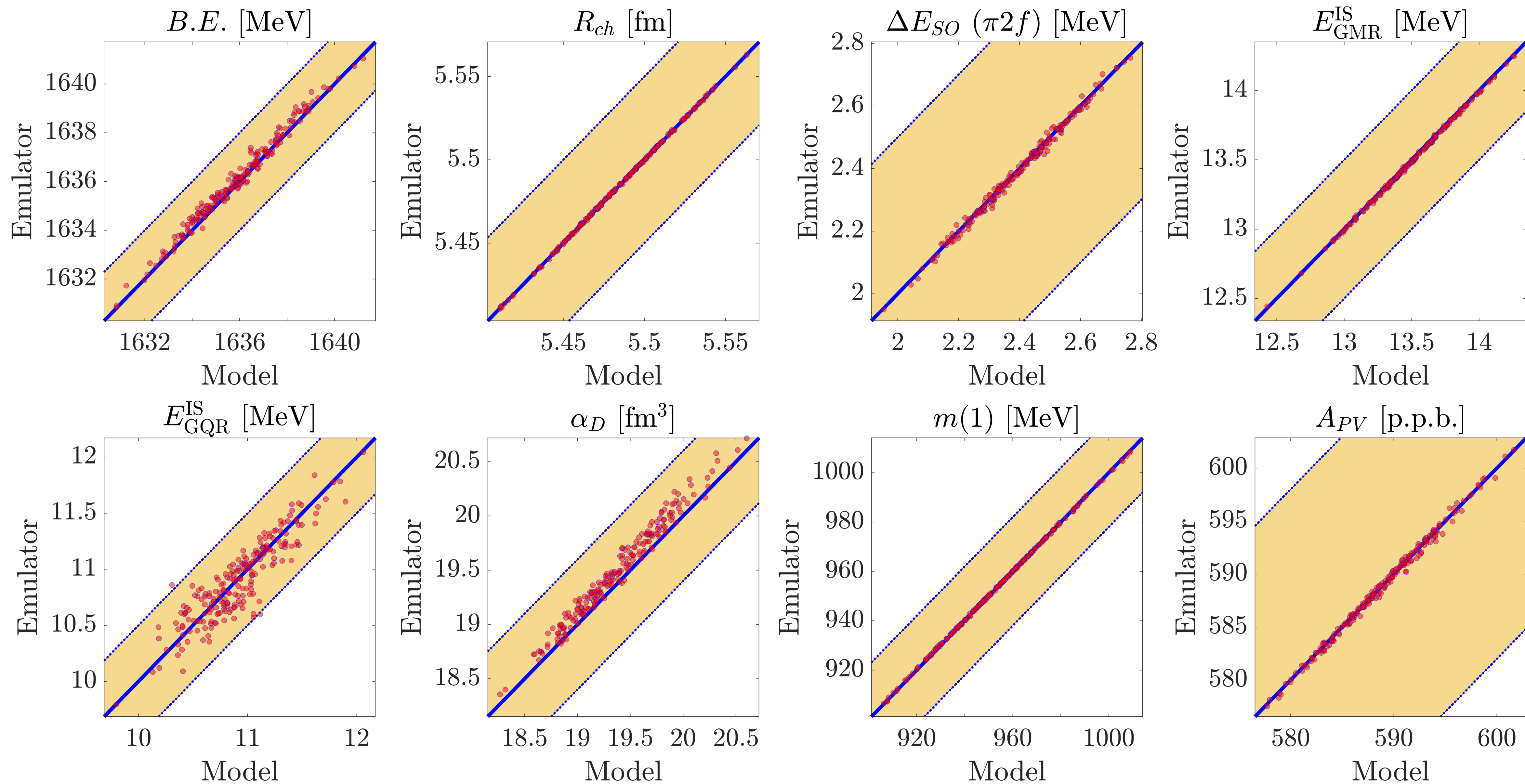


From MADAI user manual

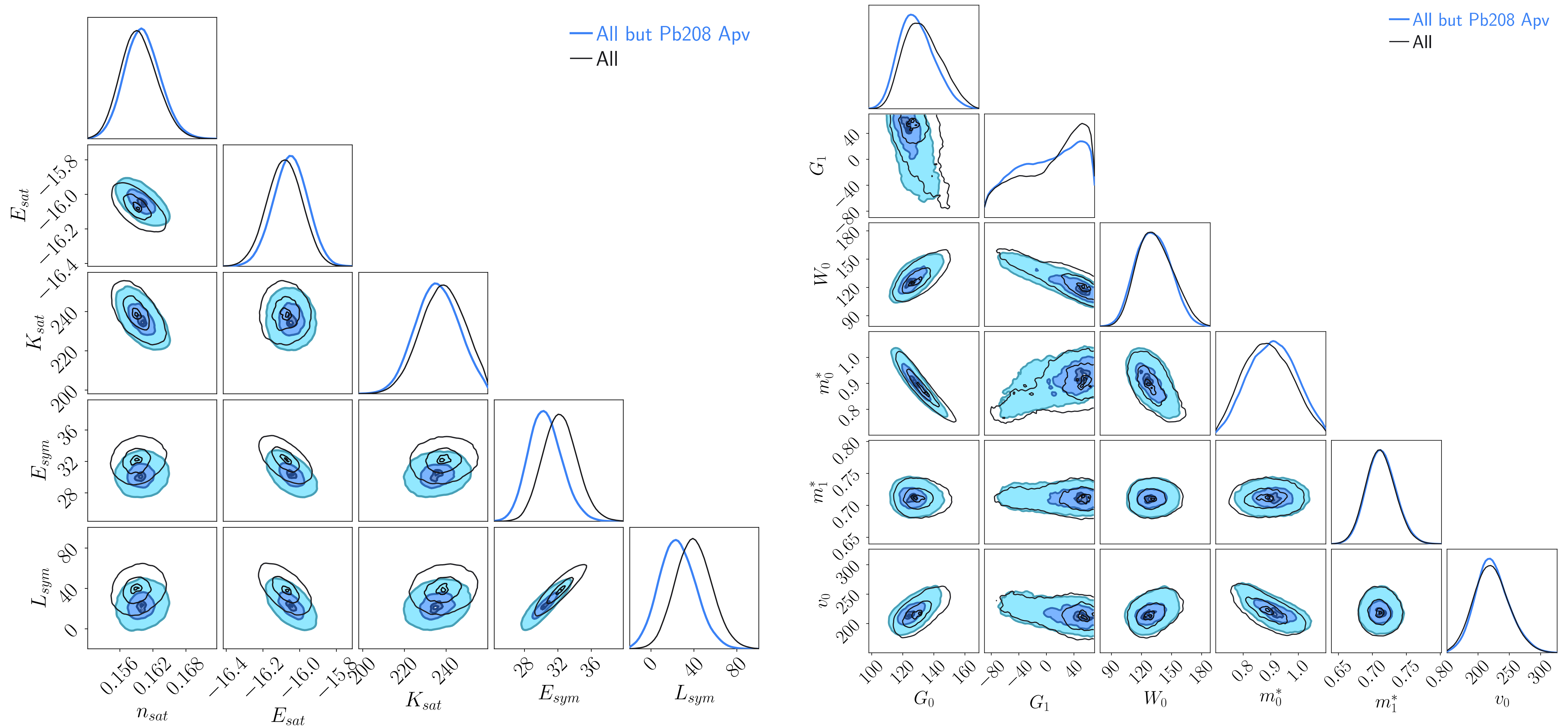
## The MADAI package:

- was built for GP applied to bayesian inference
- given the parameters prior distributions, it automatically builds the grid
- it does a MCMC to estimate the posterior distribution
- it extracts parameters sample following the posteriors

# Validation



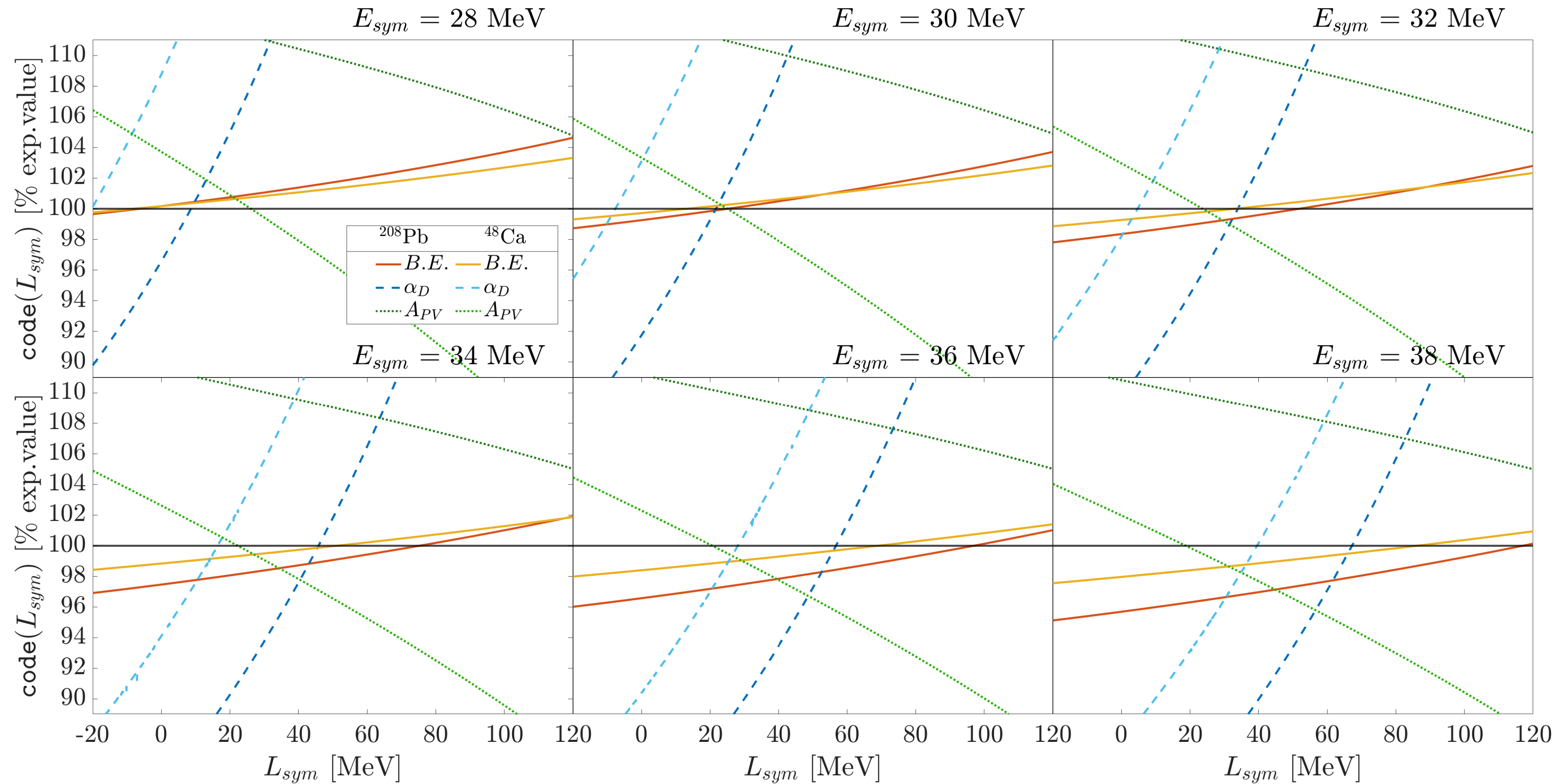
# Corner plots





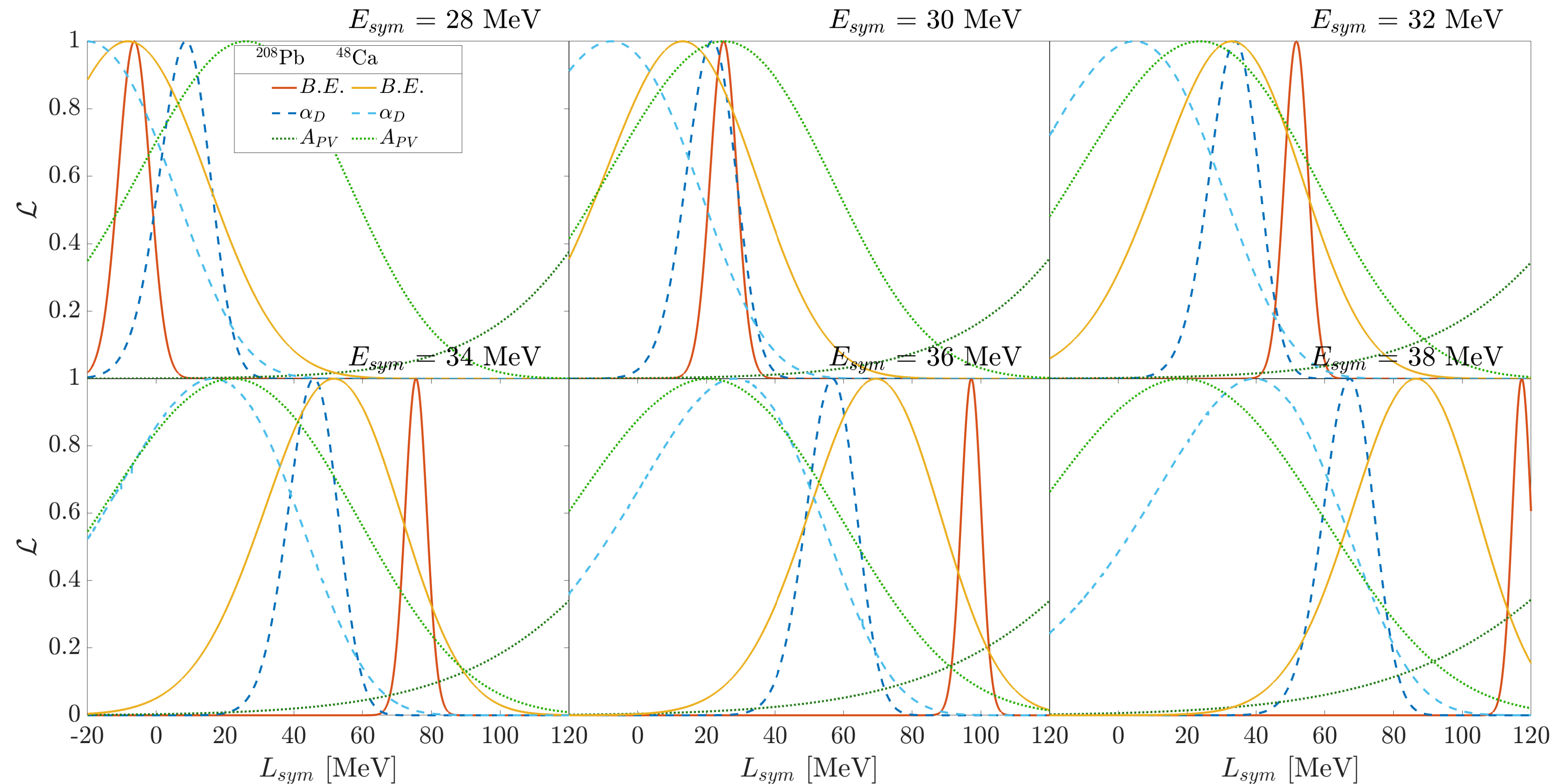
# Why is $L_{sym}$ so small?

- $L_{sym}$  only free parameter
- $E_{sym}$  fixed to (28,...,38) MeV
- Other parameters fixed at best log(Likelihood) values

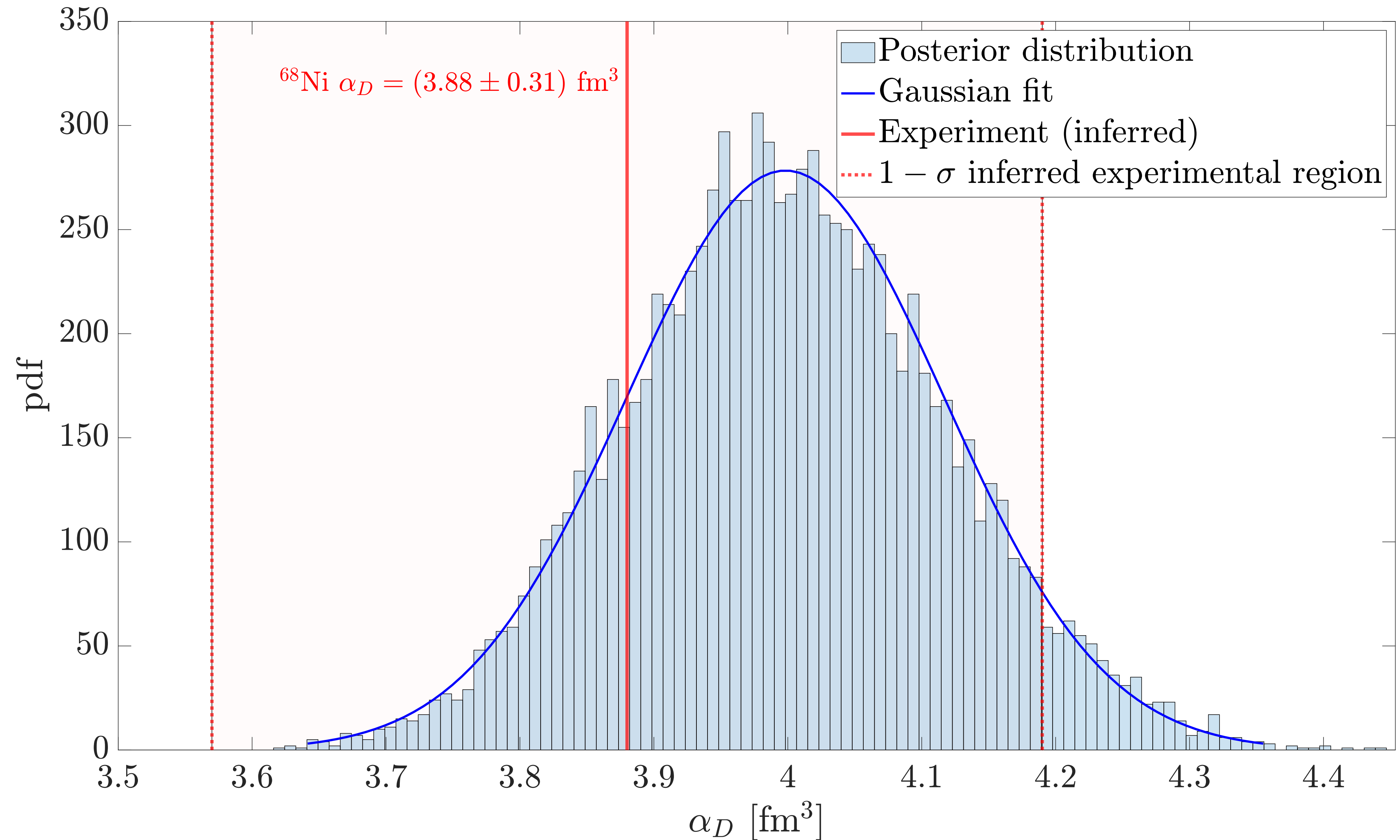


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# $^{68}\text{Ni}$ $\alpha_D$ posterior distribution



# NS EOS computation: Mapping of Skyrme into M.M.

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## Skyrme's parameters<sup>1</sup>

$$n_{sat}, E_{sat}, K_{sat}$$

$$E_{sym}, L_{sym}$$

$$G_0, G_1, W_0, m_0^*/m, m_1^*/m$$

---

## M.M.'s parameters

$$n_{sat}, E_{sat}, K_{sat}, Q_{sat}, Z_{sat}$$

$$E_{sym}, L_{sym}, K_{sym}, Q_{sym}, Z_{sym}$$

$$m_0^*/m, m_1^*/m$$

---

<sup>1</sup> 1-to-1 correspondence with usual Skyrme's parameters  
(L.-W. Chen et al. Phys. Rev. C 80, 014322 (2009))

# Mapping of Skyrme into M.M.

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$$K_{sym} = K_{sym}(n_{sat}, E_{sat}, K_{sat}, \dots)$$

## M.M.'s parameters

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$$E_{sym}, L_{sym}, K_{sym}, Q_{sym}, Z_{sym}$$

$$m_0^*/m, m_1^*/m$$

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$$E_{sym}, L_{sym}, K_{sym}, Q_{sym}, Z_{sym}, Q_{sym}^*, Z_{sym}^*$$

$$m_0^*/m, m_1^*/m$$

Skyrme's formula  $n < n_{sat}$

$$Q_{sat} = Q_{sat}(n_{sat}, E_{sat}, \dots) \quad Z_{sat} = Z_{sat}(n_{sat}, E_{sat}, \dots)$$
$$Q_{sym} = Q_{sym}(n_{sat}, E_{sat}, \dots) \quad Z_{sym} = Z_{sym}(n_{sat}, E_{sat}, \dots)$$

Randomly extracted  $n > n_{sat}$

$$Q_{sat,sym}^*, Z_{sat,sym}^*$$

---

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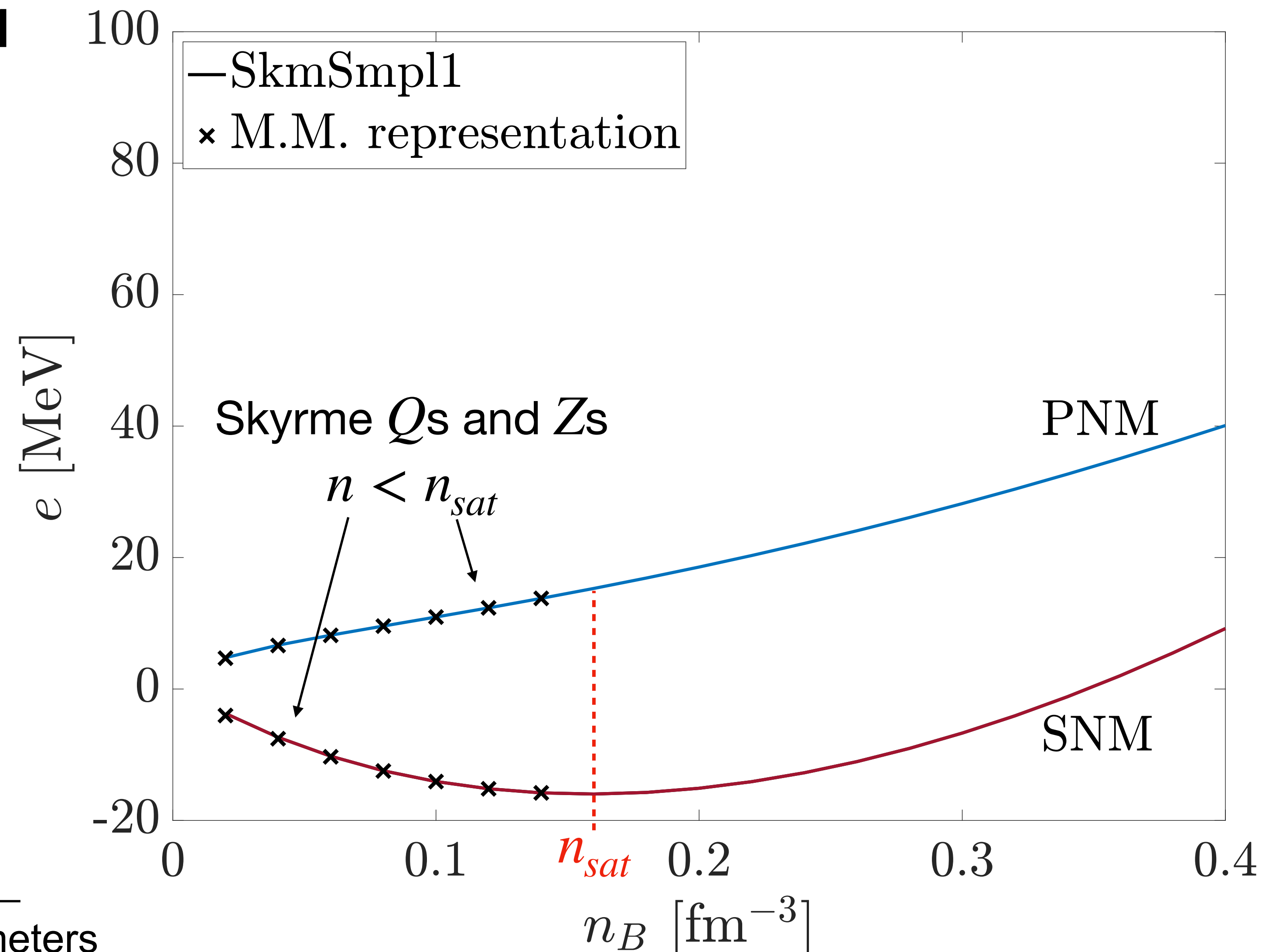
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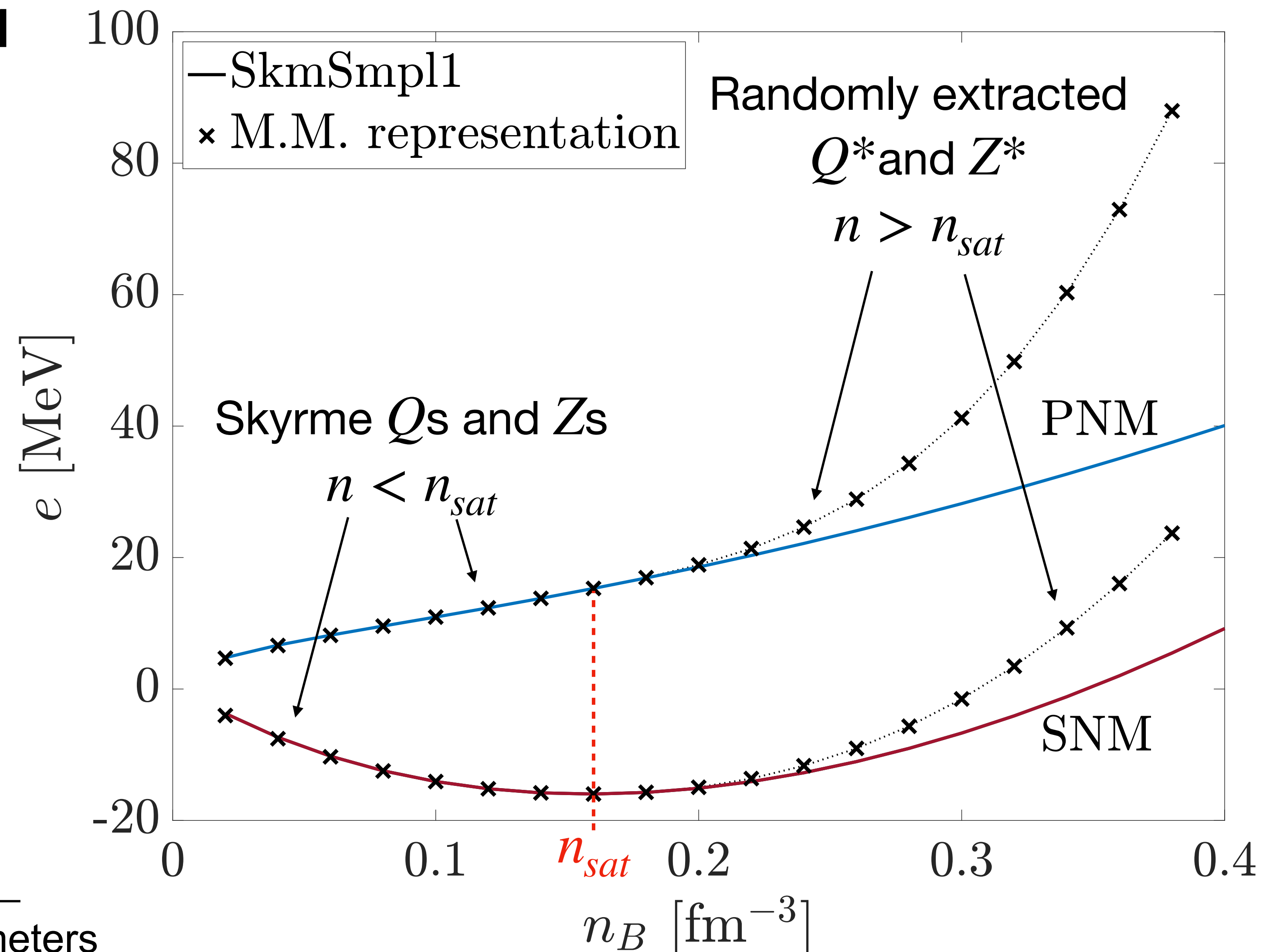
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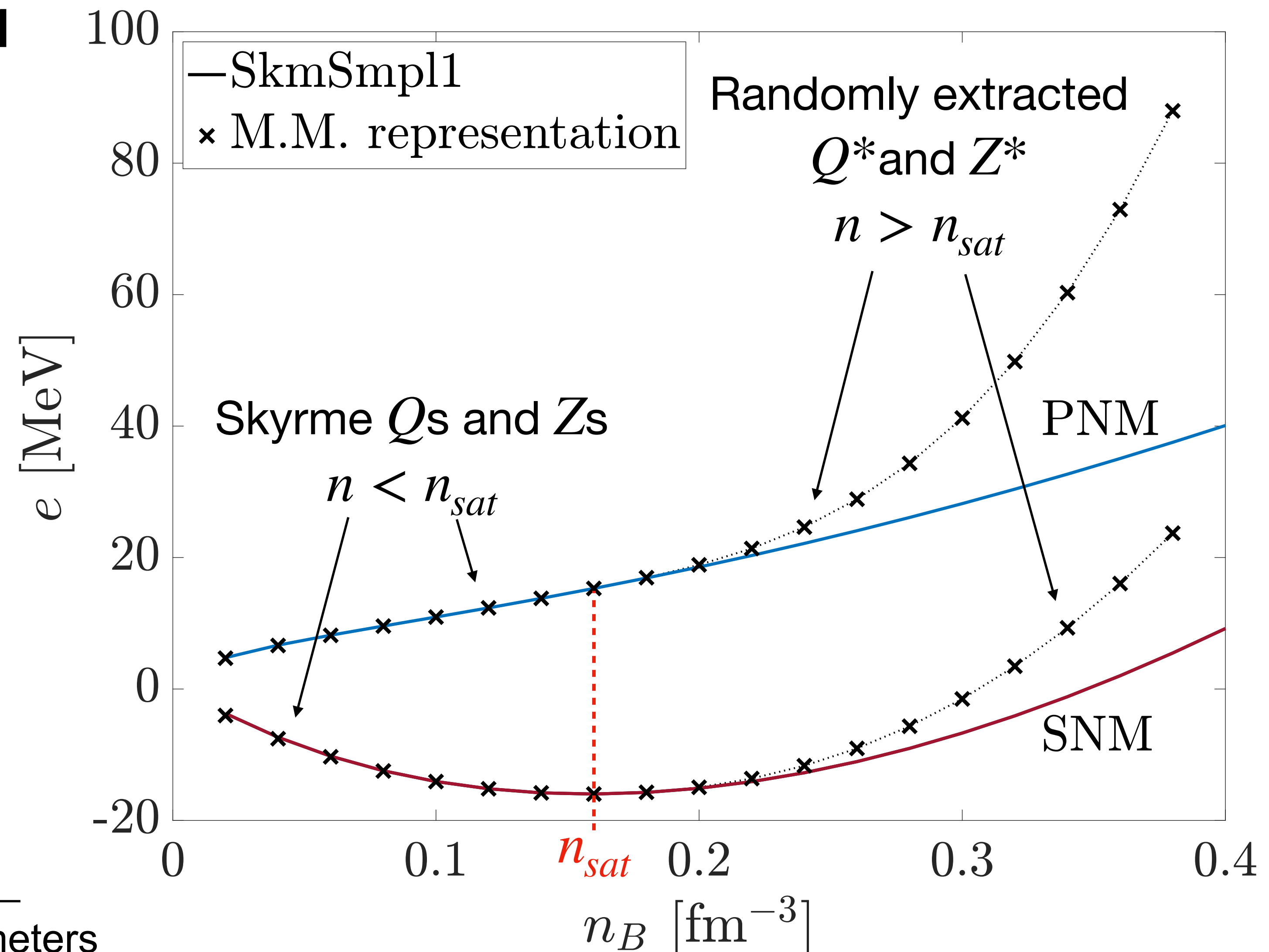
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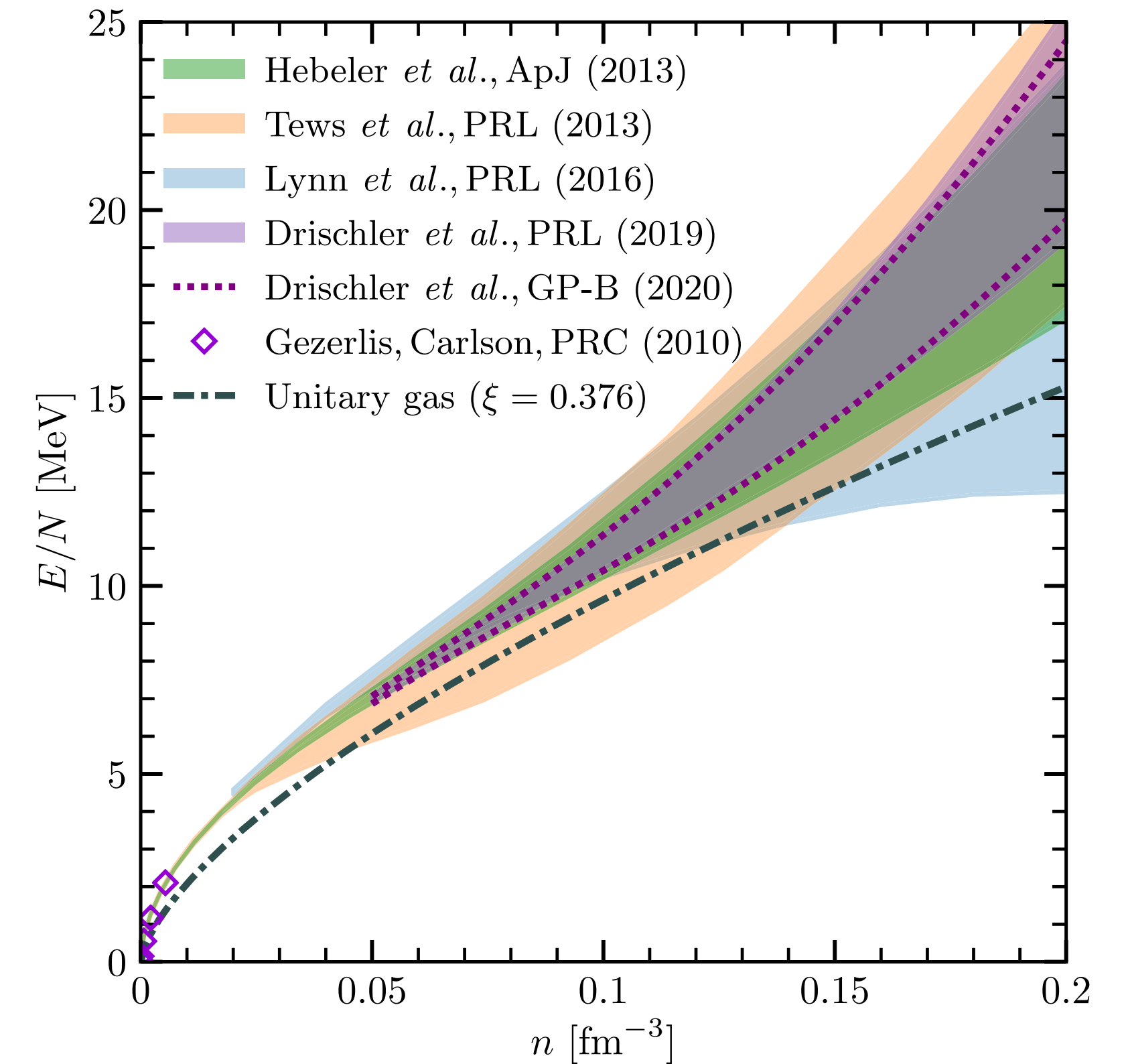


# Likelihoods

$$\mathcal{L}_\chi : \quad p(e \mid n) = \begin{cases} \exp\left(-\frac{(e - e_-(n))^2}{2\sigma_n^2}\right) & \text{if } e \in (-\infty, e_-(n)] \\ 1 & \text{if } e \in (e_-(n), e_+(n)] \\ \exp\left(-\frac{(e - e_+(n))^2}{2\sigma_n^2}\right) & \text{if } e \in (e_+(n), \infty) \end{cases}$$

$$\sigma_n = \frac{e_+(n) - e_-(n)}{9\sqrt{2\pi}}$$

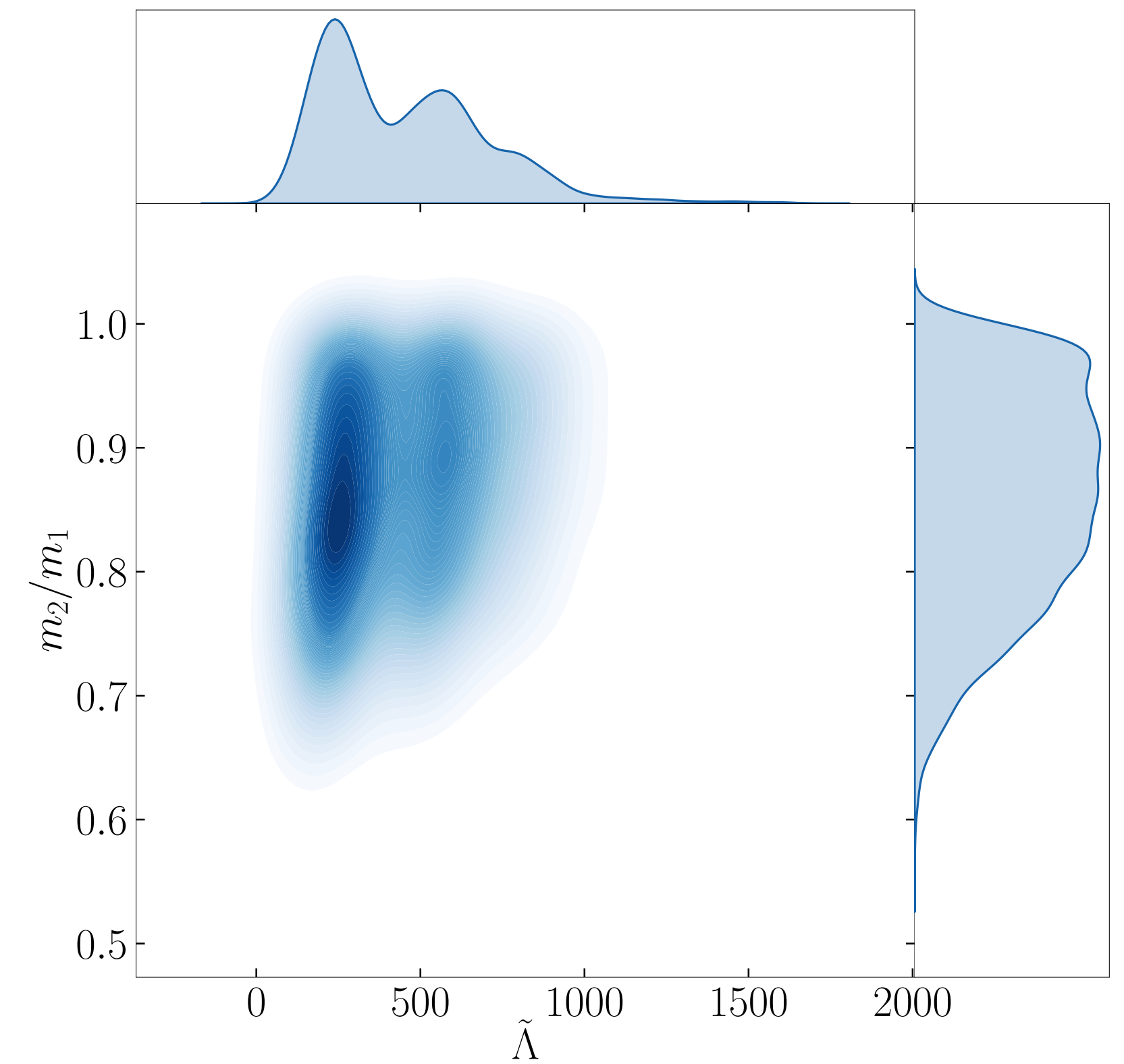
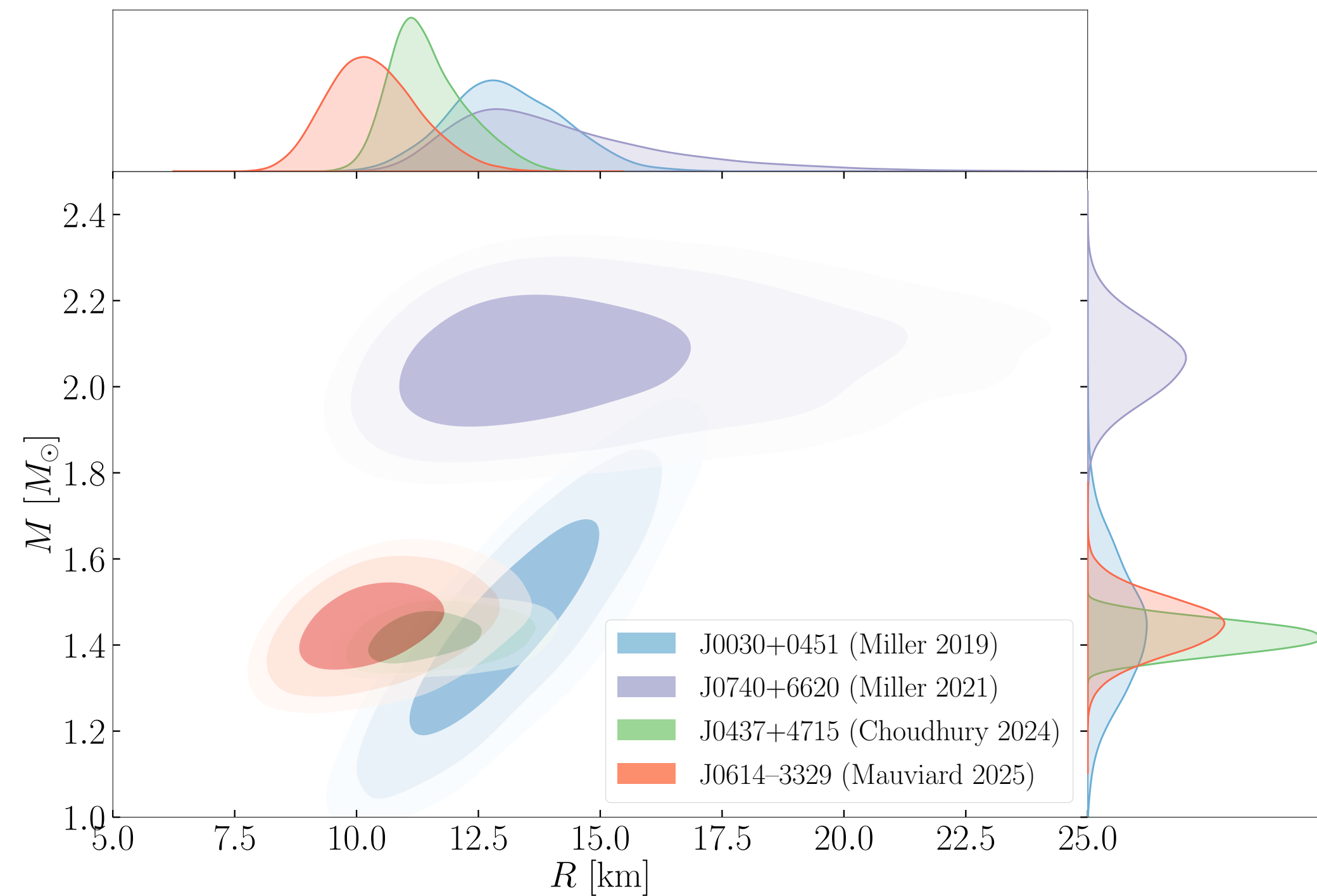
$$\mathcal{L}_{J0348} : \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} \sigma} \int_0^{M_{max}/M_\odot} dx \exp\left(-\frac{(x - 2.01)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$



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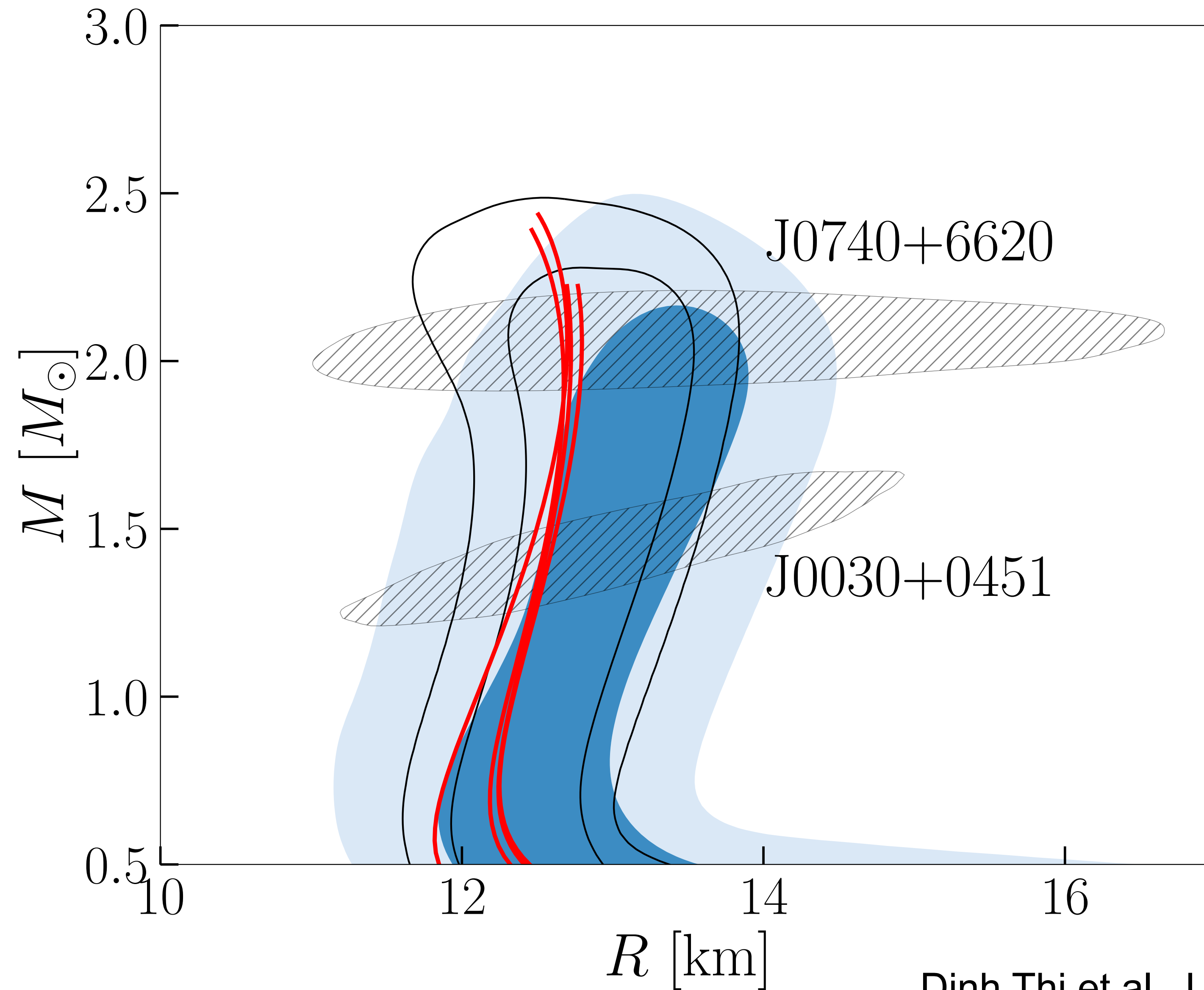
# Likelihoods

$$\mathcal{L}_{NICER} : \int dM P_{N19}(M, R(M)) \cdot \int dM P_{N21}(M, R(M))$$



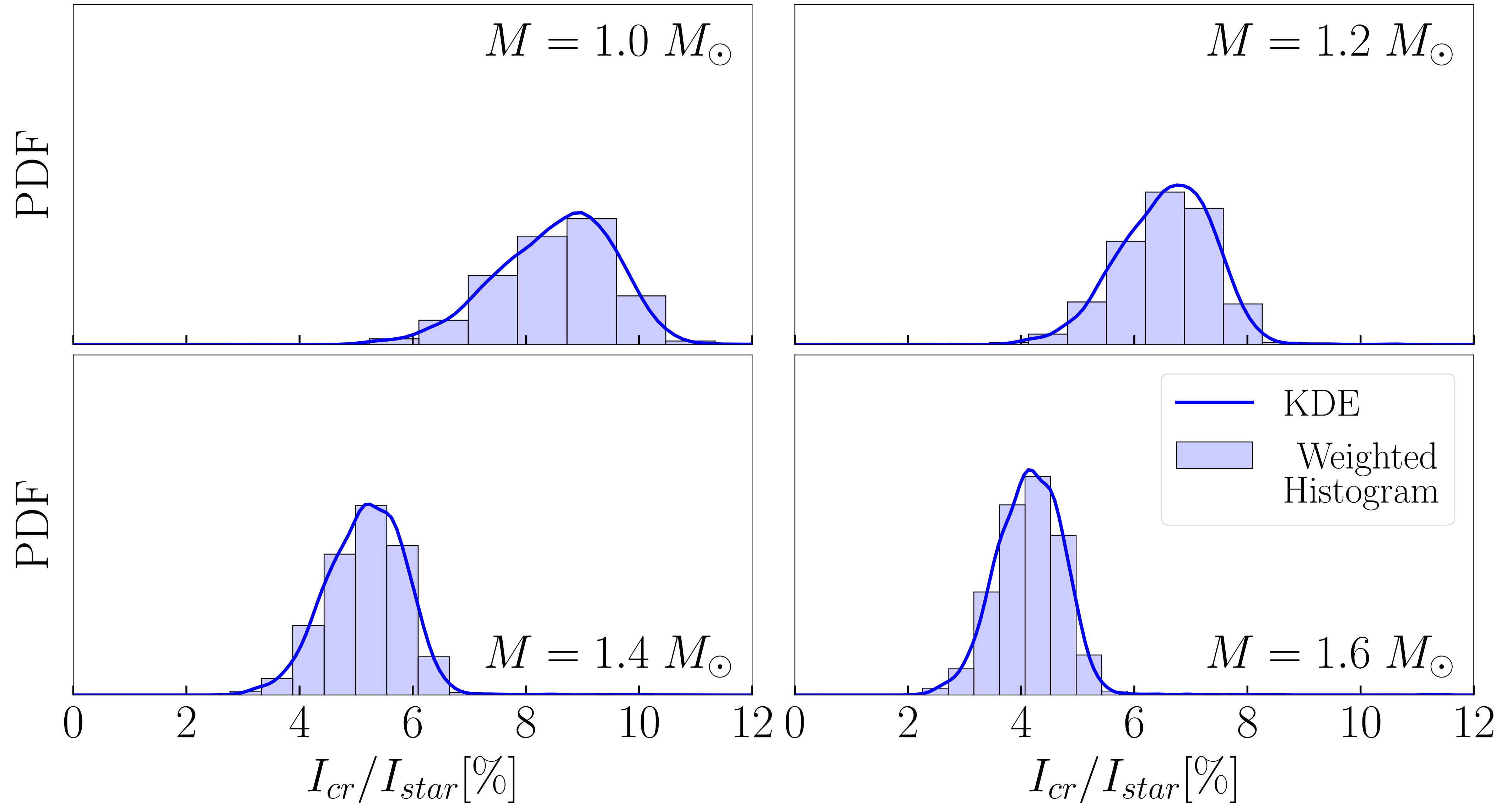
$$\mathcal{L}_{LVC} : \int dq P(\tilde{\Lambda}(q), q)$$

# $M - R$ relation





# Moment of inertia of the crust



# Crust-Core transition properties

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